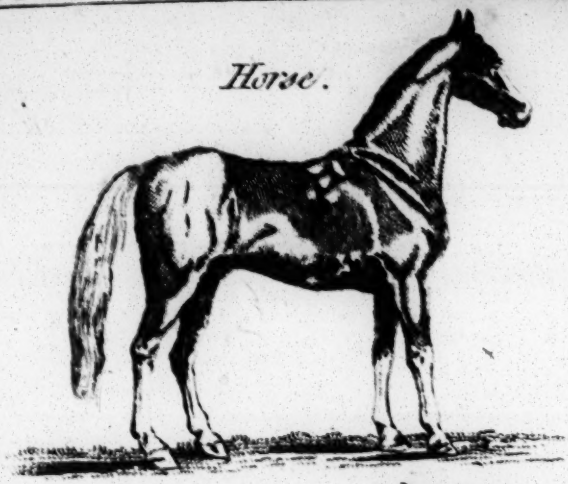

Horse.

Ass.

Zebra.

THE

NATURAL HISTORY

OF

BEASTS,

COMPILED FROM THE BEST AUTHORITIES,

AND

ILLUSTRATED BY A GREAT VARIETY OF

COPPER PLATES,

COMPRISING NEAR

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY FIGURES,

Accurately drawn from Nature, and beautifully engraved.

LONDON:

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THE ſtudy of NATURAL HISTORY is equally uſeful and agreeable: entertaining while it inſtructs, it blends the moſt pleaſing ideas with the moſt valuable diſcoveries. The objects of this ſtudy, in its ampleſt extent, are innumerable, for it embraces all the works of the Creator. The deſign of the preſent work, however, is only to exhibit the figures, accompanied by deſcriptions, of the various kinds of QUADRUPEDS, or four-footed animals. We nevertheleſs offer it as a ſpecimen which, if the favour of the Public ſhould call for it, may, in future volumes, be improved upon, and extended to other parts of Animated Nature.

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B M

THE

NATURAL HISTORY

OF

BEASTS.

INTRODUCTION.

OF QUADRUPEDS IN GENERAL.

IN a deſcription of the multitude of animals ſpread over the face of the earth, QUADRUPEDS, next to MAN, muſt be allowed to occupy the foremoſt rank. The ſimilitude between their ſtructure and our own, the inſtincts which they ſeem to enjoy in a ſuperior degree to the other claſſes that inhabit air and water, their ſervices or their hoſtilities to men, all render them the moſt intereſting parts of animated nature.

The wild animal, before he comes under the dominion of man, is ſubject to few alterations; in a ſavage ſtate, he continues for ages the ſame in ſize, ſhape, and colour; but his external and even his internal for[illegible] alter-ed by human aſſiduity: thi[illegible] the principal

principal cauſes of the great variety among the ſeveral quadrupeds of the ſame ſpecies. By cultivation and care, man appears to have changed the very nature of domeſtic animals; they ſeem to have few other deſires but ſuch as man is willing to allow them. Humble, patient, reſigned, and attentive, they fill up the duties of their ſtation, ready for labour, and ſatisfied with ſubſiſtence.

The ſavage animals preſerve the marks of their original formation; their colours are generally the ſame; a rough duſky brown, or a tawny, being almoſt their only varieties. But in the tame animals it is otherwiſe; their colours are various, and their forms are different. The nature of the climate, which indeed operates on all, has a particular effect on theſe. The nouriſhment furniſhed by the hand of man, is not choſen to their appetites, but to ſuit his own convenience; the climate, the rigours of which he can ſoften, and the various employments to which they are aſſigned, produce innumerable diſtinctions that are not to be found among the ſavage animals. Although, at firſt, theſe diſtinctions were accidental, they in time became hereditary. Their very appetites may indeed be changed; and thoſe animals which naturally feed on graſs, may be rendered carnivorous, or feeders on fleſh. "I have ſeen," ſays Dr. Goldſmith, "a ſheep that would eat fleſh, and a horſe that was fond of oyſters."

Climate alſo appears to have conſiderable effects upon the nature and form of quadrupeds.

peds. It is a general remark, that the colder the country, the larger and warmer is the fur of the animals; Nature having wiſely ordained that the inhabitant ſhould be adapted to its ſituation.

The climate ſeems alſo to mark the diſpoſition of the animal, as much as the figure.

In all countries where the men are moſt barbarous, the animals are moſt cruel and fierce. Africa has ever been remarked for the barbarity of its men and the ferocity of its beaſts: its crocodiles and its ſerpents are as much to be dreaded as its lions and its leopards; their diſpoſitions ſeem entirely marked with the climate, and, bred in an extreme of heat, they ſhew a peculiar ferocity, invincible by the force or cunning of mankind.

The quantity of food in any country, or its nutriment, adapted to each peculiar ſpecies, ſerves alſo to make a variety in the ſize of the reſpective animals.

The largeſt and fierceſt animals are found in the deſerts of Africa, where the plants are extremely nouriſhing; and, perhaps for a contrary reaſon, America does not produce ſuch large animals as are found in the ancient continent. It is however certain, whatever be the reaſon, that although America is inferior in its quadruped productions, it far exceeds us in the ſize of all kinds of reptiles.

But, although the quadrupeds of America be ſmaller, they are much more numerous; for it is a rule that obtains through nature, that the ſmalleſt animals multiply the moſt.

Animals of almoſt every kind, whatever their natural diſpoſition may be at other times, acquire new courage and fierceneſs in defence of their young. There is, however, one claſs of quadrupeds that ſeems left entirely to chance; they have no parent or inſtructor to protect or teach them the arts of ſubſiſtence: theſe are the quadrupeds of the oviparous kinds, or ſuch as are produced from the egg, as the lizard, the tortoiſe, and the crocodile. Of all animals, theſe are the moſt prolific; they often bring forth above two hundred at a time; but, as the offſpring is more numerous, the parental care is leſs exerted. The brood of eggs are, without further ſolicitude, buried in the ſands of the ſhore, and left to be perfected by the warmth of the ſun; and they arrive at this perfection almoſt as ſoon as they are diſengaged from the ſhell. Moſt of them, without any guide, immediately move towards the water; but, in their paſſage thither, they have innumerable enemies to fear. Birds of prey that haunt the ſhore, beaſts, and even the parent animals, by a ſtrange rapacity, are ſaid to reduce their numbers.

Providence has thus kindly ordered it, that the moſt noxious animals ſhall have many deſtroyers; were it otherwiſe, by their extreme fecundity, they would ſoon over-run the earth, and the moſt inoffenſive part of animated nature would have but a ſhort exiſtence, full of ſufferings and perſecutions.

THE HORSE.

OF four-footed animals, the horſe ſeems the moſt beautiful; he is alſo the moſt generous and uſeful; docile, ſpirited, and yet obedient, he is adapted to all purpoſes, the chace, the draught, and the race. This animal is produced in moſt parts of the world. To have an idea of him, however, in his native ſimplicity, we muſt look for him in thoſe wild and extenſive plains where he has been originally produced, where he ranges without controul. In this happy ſtate of independence, and rioting in all the variety of luxurious nature, he diſdains the aſſiſtance of man, which only tends to ſervitude. In thoſe boundleſs tracts, whether of Africa or New Spain, he is not incommoded with the inconveniencies and reſtraints to which he is ſubject in Europe. His wants are ſupwith the continual verdure of the field, and the climate, which is a ſtranger to winter, ſuits his conſtitution, naturally adapted to heat. His enemies are few; for none but the larger kinds of animals will venture to attack him. Like man, however, he ſecures his ſafety in ſociety; for in thoſe countries the wild horſes herd together, and are often ſeen feeding in aſſemblies of five or ſix hundred.

As they are harmleſs animals, theſe precautions are purely for their ſecurity in caſe of a ſurprize. Whenever they ſleep in the foreſts, one performs the office of centinel, to give notice of any approaching danger; and this of-

fice they execute by turns. If, while they are feeding by day, a man approaches them, their centinel boldly walks towards him, as if to examine his ſtrength, or to deter him from proceeding. If the man advances within piſtol ſhot, the centinel alarms his fellows by a loud kind of ſnorting, upon which they all take the ſignal, and fly off with amazing rapidity; their faithful centinel always bringing up the rear.

Although the horſe is found in almoſt all countries, it is evident that the colder climates do not agree with his conſtitution; his form is altered there, and he is found not only diminutive, but ill-ſhaped.

In ſeveral parts of Africa wild horſes are found; but the inhabitants are either ignorant of their uſes, or know not how to tame them. They conſider the horſe rather as a dainty kind of food, than as a creature capable of aſſiſting them in war or labour; and whenever the natives of Angola or Caffraria catch an horſe, they butcher him for food.

But, of all the wild horſes, Arabia produces the moſt beautiful: their colour is brown, the mane and tail very ſhort, and the hair black and tufted. They are ſmaller than thoſe which are bred tame, and their ſwiftneſs is incredible: the only method of taking them is by traps concealed in the ſand, which entangling their feet, the hunter approaches them, and either kills or carries them home alive. If the horſe be young, the Arabians feaſt upon him; but if they are of opinion he will be ſerviceable in war or labour, they tame him by fatigue and hunger.

Almoſt

Almoſt the pooreſt Arab is provided with his horſe; and, having only a tent to live in, the huſband, the wife, the children, and the horſe, all lie together without diſtinction: and children are frequently ſeen upon the body or neck of the horſe, while it continues harmleſs and inoffenſive, permitting them to play with it without injury. The Arabians never beat their horſes; they treat them gently, and conſider them as friends. The Arabian horſes are of a middle ſize, eaſy in their motions, and rather inclined to lean than fat. Every morning and evening they are dreſſed with the greateſt care, and they have nothing to eat during the whole day; but are permitted to drink once or twice; and at ſun-ſet a bag is hung to their heads, containing about half a buſhel of clean barley. They continue eating the whole night, and the bag is taken away in the morning.

The Arabian breed of horſes has ſpread itſelf into Barbary, among the Moors, and has even extended itſelf acroſs that vaſt continent to the weſtern ſhores of Africa.

The Spaniſh genette is ſmall, but extremely ſwift and beautiful. Their moſt uſual colour is black, or a dark bay. They are ſaid to have courage, obedience, grace, and ſpirit, in a higher degree than even thoſe of Barbary; and have therefore been preferred as war horſes to thoſe of any other country.

The Italian horſes are not ſo beautiful now as they were formerly, for the Italians have greatly neglected the breed. In general they have large heads, and thick necks, are reſtive,

and conſequently ungovernable. They are, however, large, ſpirited, and have a graceful eaſy motion. They are very fond of prancing; and are excellent for ſhew.

The Daniſh horſes are of a large ſtrong make, and are preferred to all others for draught. They are of all kinds of colours, and often very whimſical ones, ſome of them being mottled like the leopard, or ſtreaked like the tiger.

The German horſes appear to be ſmall and ill-ſhaped; they are alſo ſaid to be weak, and to have very tender feet. The Hungarian horſes are excellent both for the draught and ſaddle. The huſſars, who uſe them in war, uſually ſlit their noſes; as it is ſaid, to prevent their neighing.

The Dutch breed is good for draught, and is uſed all over Europe for that purpoſe.

The French have various kinds of horſes, but very few that are good.

The horſes of India are of a very indifferent kind. Thoſe uſed by people of rank are brought from Arabia and Perſia. Thoſe, however, which belong to the country are very ſmall and vicious. Taverner informs us, they are ſo very little, that the young Mogul prince, when he was but ſeven years of age, rode one of thoſe little horſes, that ſcarcely exceeded a greyhound in ſize; and one of theſe was very lately brought over into this country, as a preſent to our queen, that is not above nine hands high, and very little larger than a common maſtiff.

The

The horſes of China alſo are ſmall, weak, ill-ſhaped, and timid. Thoſe of Corea are not above three feet high; and ſo timorous, that they cannot be rendered ſerviceable in war; it may, therefore, with propriety, be ſaid, that the Tartar horſes were, in reality, the conquerors of China. Theſe are indeed extremely ſerviceable in war; and although they are but of a middle ſize, they are ſurprizingly patient, vigorous, bold, and ſwift. The Tartars and their horſes live together almoſt in the ſame manner as the Arabians do; they begin to back them when they are but ſeven or eight months old, placing their children upon them, who manage them even at that early age. Thus they break them, by degrees, till at laſt, when they are about ſix or ſeven years old, they are able to endure great hardſhips; they have been known to march two or three days without ſtopping; to continue five or ſix days without any proviſions, except an handful of graſs at every eight hours, and to remain twenty-four hours without drinking.

In Great Britain, from the frequent introduction of foreign horſes, we can boaſt of a greater variety than any other country, and of having brought this noble animal to the higheſt degree of perfection. An Engliſh horſe is known to excel the Arabian in ſize and ſwiftneſs, to be more durable than that of Barbary, and more hardy than the Perſian. The famous horſe Childers (called Flying Childers), the property of the Duke of Devonſhire, was an amazing in-

ſtance of rapidity: he has run eighty-two feet and a half in a ſecond, or almoſt a mile in a minute; the ſame horſe has run round the courſe at Newmarket, which is only four hundred yards leſs than four miles, in ſix minutes and forty ſeconds. It is, however, remarkable, no other horſe has ſince been able to equal him; and thoſe of his breed have been remarkably deficient.

The moſt extraordinary inſtance of quickneſs in a *trotting* pace was performed on the 4th of July 1788, for a wager of thirty guineas, by a horſe the property of a gentleman of Billiter Square, London. He trotted thirty miles in an hour and twenty minutes. The time allowed by the wager was an hour and a half.

No other country can produce a breed of horſes equal in ſtrength and ſize to ours, which are deſtined for the draught, or to the united ſtrength and activity of thoſe that form our cavalry. In London there are inſtances of a ſingle horſe that has been able to draw, for a ſmall ſpace, the weight of three tons; but could eaſily draw half that weight for a continuance. It has been uſual for the pack-horſes of Yorkſhire to carry a burden of four hundred and twenty pounds, and that over the higheſt hills of the north, as well as the moſt level roads. Some of our mill-horſes will carry at one load thirteen meaſures, which, at a moderate computation of ſeventy pounds each, will amount to nine hundred and ten. When it is conſidered that theſe horſes are accuſtomed to the weight

by

by degrees, it will appear leſs ſurpriſing: it muſt alſo be remembered that they travel only to and from the adjacent hamlets.

By the teeth we are beſt enabled to judge of the age of a horſe. Five days after birth, the four teeth in front begin to ſhoot; theſe are called nippers, and are caſt at the age of two years and a half. They are ſoon renewed, and the next year he again caſts two above and two below; one on each ſide of the nippers. At four years and a half other four fall out next thoſe laſt placed: theſe laſt four foal teeth are ſucceeded by other four, which grow much more ſlowly than the firſt eight: and it is from theſe laſt four corner teeth that the age of the horſe is diſtinguiſhed: they are ſomewhat hollow in the middle, and have a black mark in the cavities. At five years, theſe teeth ſcarcely riſe above the gums; at ſix, their cavities begin to fill up, and turn to a browniſh ſpot, like the eye of a garden bean; and before eight years, the mark generally diſappears.

Although horſes are endowed with vaſt ſtrength and great powers, they ſeldom exert either to the prejudice of their maſters; on the contrary, they will endure the greateſt fatigues for our benefit. They have a benevolent diſpoſition, and a fear of the human race, together with a certain conſciouſneſs of the ſervices we can render them. But it is truly matter of regret, that theſe excellent qualities ſhould be ſo ſhamefully abuſed as they often are, either by forcing this generous animal to exertions beyond his ſtrength for the gratification of avarice,

or

or by the mercileſs blows of an unfeeling maſter.

Providence hath admirably adapted the ſeveral ſervices of domeſtic animals towards the human race; and ordered that the parts of ſuch, which have been moſt uſeful during their lives, ſhould contribute the leaſt to our benefit after death. The principal uſe that the ſkin of the horſe can be applied to, is, for collars, traces, and other parts of the harneſs; and thus, even after death, he preſerves ſome analogy to his former employ. The mane is uſed in making perukes, and the hair of the tail for bottoms of chairs, floor-cloths, cords, and lines for the angler. To ſum up the account of this noble and generous animal, it is certain, that every country which boaſts of a fine race of horſes, is indebted to Arabia, their original ſoil.

THE ASS.

FROM the reſemblance between the horſe and the aſs, we might, at firſt ſight, ſuppoſe them of the ſame ſpecies, and that the aſs was only an horſe degenerated; but, though nearly alike in form, they are perfectly diſtinct.

This animal is found wild in many iſlands of the Archipelago, and in the deſerts of Lybia and Numidia. When they behold a man, they ſet up a horrid braying, ſtop ſhort all together till he approaches them, and then run off with extraordinary ſpeed; and upon ſuch occaſions they generally fall into the traps that are prepared

pared for them. Their fleſh, by the natives, is conſidered as delicious eating, and of their ſkins that kind of leather is made which is called ſhagreen.

When attacked, theſe animals defend themſelves with their heels and mouth with ſuch activity, that, without ſlackening their pace, they often maim their purſuers: they will not ſuffer an horſe to live among them; and, if any one ſhould happen to ſtray into the place where they graze, they immediately fall upon him, and, without permitting him to eſcape, they bite and kick him till they leave him dead.

Such is the aſs in its natural ſtate, fleet, fierce, and formidable; but in his ſtate of tameneſs he preſents a very different picture. He is then the moſt gentle and quiet of all animals, and aſſumes a patience and ſubmiſſion even humbler than his ſituation. He is temperate with regard to his proviſion, and is contented with the moſt neglected weeds: the plantane, however, ſeems to be his favourite vegetable, for which he is often ſeen to neglect every other herb in the paſture. With reſpect to his water, he is extremely delicate, and drinks only at the cleareſt brooks, and principally thoſe to which he has been accuſtomed; he drinks as moderately as he eats, and never, like the horſe, puts his noſe into the ſtream. He never rolls in the mud, and even ſeems afraid of wetting his feet, turning out of his way to avoid the dirty paths of a road. He is ſprightly, and even tolerably handſome, when very young, but, either by

age

age or bad treatment, he preſently loſes theſe qualifications, and becomes ſlow, ſtupid, and headſtrong. This animal is ſometimes ſtrongly attached to its owner, by whom he is too frequently abuſed. He diſtinguiſhes him from others in a crowd, and ſcents him at a diſtance.

When overloaded, he ſhews his ſenſe of the injuſtice of his maſter, by hanging down his ears: he will not ſtir a ſtep if his eyes are covered; he walks, trots, and gallops like a horſe; but, if he even ſets out pretty freely at firſt, he is quickly tired, and then hardly any beating will make him mend his pace; the unmerciful rider exerts his whip in vain; the poor creature ſuffers it with patience, and without a groan; and, conſcious of its own imbecility, does not even attempt to move.

Man appears to deſpiſe this humble uſeful animal: the horſe is the only favourite, and upon him alone all labour and expence are beſtowed. He is carefully fed and attended, while the aſs is abandoned to the cruelty of the vulgar, or to the ſport of children: he is overloaded and inſulted by unneceſſary ſtripes. Being generally the property of the poor, he partakes of their wants and their diſtreſſes; and, were it not for the medicinal qualities of its milk, it is probable that the whole ſpecies would have been long ſince extinguiſhed.

The aſs is a more healthy animal than the horſe; is three or four years in coming to perfection; lives from twenty to twenty-five years; requires

requires much leſs ſleep than the horſe, and never lies down for that purpoſe but when he is much tired. The ſhe-aſs goes eleven months with young, and never produces more than one at a time.

THE ZEBRA.

MANY authors have miſtaken the zebra for the wild aſs, though it is quite a different animal: the zebra is the moſt beautiful, and, at the ſame time, the wildeſt animal in nature. It is principally a native of the ſouthern parts of Africa; and whole herds of them are frequently ſeen feeding on thoſe extenſive plains that lie towards the Cape of Good Hope. But they are ſo vigilant that they will ſuffer nothing to approach them; and ſo ſwift, that they eaſily leave every purſuer far behind. In ſhape, the zebra rather reſembles the mule than the horſe or the aſs: it is leſs than the former, and yet larger than the latter. Its ears are longer than thoſe of the horſe, but ſhorter than thoſe of the aſs. Like the aſs, it has a large head, a ſtraight back, its legs are finely placed, and its tail is tufted at the end; like the horſe, its ſkin is ſmooth and cloſe, and its hind quarters round and fleſhy. The colours of the male are white and brown, thoſe of the female white and black. Theſe colours are ſo exactly diſpoſed in alternate ſtripes over the whole body, that one would imagine nature had employed the rule and compaſs in painting them. Theſe ſtripes, reſem-

reſembling ſo many ribands laid over its body, are narrow, parallel, and curiouſly ſeparated from each other; every ſtripe is perfectly diſtinct. The head, the body, the thighs, the legs, the tail, and even the ears, are thus beautifully ſtreaked, ſo that at a ſmall diſtance the animal appears to be dreſſed out by art, inſtead of being thus admirably adorned by nature.

Hitherto this animal appears to have diſdained ſervitude, and neither force nor tenderneſs have been able to wean it from its native independence and ferocity. That at the Queen's Menagerie, near Buckingham Gate, is as wild as if juſt caught, and will endeavour to kick any perſon that comes near it, though it was taken extremely young, and uſed with the utmoſt indulgence.

Although this creature is not to be found in Europe, Aſia, or America, it is very eaſily fed. That which appeared in England ſome years ago would eat bread, meat, tobacco, and almoſt any thing; and that which is here at preſent ſubſiſts entirely upon hay. The noiſe they make is very different from that of an aſs, reſembling more the confuſed barking of a maſtiff dog.

THE MULE.

THE mule is an animal of a ſpecies between an horſe and an aſs. Could we prevail upon ourſelves to conſider this animal in its proper light, and pay due attention to its breaking, we might

might eaſily form it for the ſaddle, the draught, or the burden. In Spain people of the firſt quality are drawn by mules; and fifty or ſixty guineas is no uncommon price for one of them. This is not in the leaſt ſurpriſing, when we conſider how greatly they excel the horſe in draught in a mountainous country; for where the horſe can hardly ſtand, the mule is able to tread ſecurely.

The common mule is very healthy, and will live about thirty years.

OF RUMINATING ANIMALS, OR SUCH AS CHEW THE CUD.

THE BULL, OX, AND COW.

OF all animals that chew the cud, theſe deſerve the firſt rank, with reſpect to their ſize, their beauty, and their ſervices.

The verdure and fertility of our plains are perfectly ſuited to this animal's manner of feeding; for, not having the upper fore-teeth, it is fond of grazing in a rich high paſture, regardleſs of the quality of its food, if it be ſupplied in ſufficient abundance; and our cattle grow larger, yield more milk, and ſooner fatten than thoſe of any other part of Europe.

The age of the cow is known by the teeth and horns; but moſt accurately by the latter.

At three years old it ſheds it horns, which are ſucceeded by new ones that continue as long as it lives; at four, it has ſmall pointed ſmooth horns; in another year they become larger, and are marked round with a year's growth. Thus they continue to grow as long as the animal lives, and a new ring is added every year at the root; ſo that the animal's age may be exactly known, by allowing three years before the appearance of the horns, and then adding the number of rings.

The cow is to be found, in ſome one of its varieties, in almoſt every part of the world.

In Great Britain, the ox is the only horned animal that will apply his ſtrength to the ſervice of mankind. It is certain, that, in many caſes, oxen are more profitable in the draught than horſes; their food, harneſs, and ſhoes being cheaper; and after they are grown old, they are equally valuable. There is ſcarce any part of this animal without its uſe. The blood, fat, marrow, hide, hair, horns, hoofs, milk, cream, butter, cheeſe, whey, urine, liver, gall, ſpleen, and bones, have each their particular uſes in commerce, manufactures, and medicine. The hide ſerves for boots, ſhoes, and many other conveniencies of life. Vellum is made of calves ſkin, and gold-beaters ſkin is made either of a thin vellum, or the finer part of the guts of the ox. The hair, mixed with lime, is a very neceſſary article in building. Combs, handles for knives, boxes, buttons, drinking veſſels, &c. are made of the horns; and carpenters' glue of the chips of the hoofs, and the parings of the raw hides.

The

The bones are uſed by mechanics as a ſubſtitute for ivory; by which many neat conveniencies may be purchaſed at an eaſy rate. From the feet is procured an oil much uſed in the harneſs and trappings belonging to a coach; and the bones calcined afford a fit matter for teſts for the uſe of the refiner in the ſmelting trade. The blood is ſaid to be an excellent manure for fruit-trees; and it is the baſis of the colour called the Pruſſian blue. We owe our artificial light by candle or lamp in ſome manner to their fat and ſuet. The uſes of butter, cheeſe, cream, and milk, are too obvious to be inſiſted on.

Ox beef is very nouriſhing, and yields a ſtrong aliment; and thoſe who live chiefly upon beef are ſtrong, vigorous, and healthy. Bull beef is hard, tough, and dry, and is therefore ſeldom uſed for food. The fleſh of a cow is inferior to that of an ox; but if ſhe has been well fatted, and is young, there is no very conſiderable difference. Veal is nouriſhing, well taſted, and eaſy of digeſtion: it agrees very well with weak delicate conſtitutions, and thoſe who uſe but little exerciſe.

THE URUS, OR WILD BULL.

THE urus, or wild bull, is chiefly to be met with in the province of Lithuania. It grows to ſuch an amazing ſize, that ſcarcely any animal, except the elephant, is found to equal it. This creature is quite black, except a ſtripe mixed

with white on the top of the back, which extends from the neck to the tail: the eyes are fierce; the horns ſhort, thick, and ſtrong; the forehead is generally decorated with a large quantity of black curled hair, and many of them have beards of the ſame; the neck is ſhort and thick, and the ſkin has a ſtrong odour reſembling muſk. Upon the whole, however, this animal differs but little from the tame one. The fleſh of the urus is much inferior to that of the ox, and the moſt valuable part of him is the hide, which ſerves for various purpoſes.

THE BISON.

THE biſon is another variety of the cow-kind, though it differs from the reſt, in having a lump between its ſhoulders: ſome of theſe animals are very large, and others as ſmall. In general the fore parts of this creature ſomewhat reſemble the lion, having a long ſhaggy main, and a beard under his chin; his head is ſmall, his eyes red and fiery, and his looks furious; the forehead is extenſive, and the horns ſo large and ſo far aſunder, that there is ſometimes room for three men to ſit between them: a bunch, almoſt as high as that of a camel, grows on the middle of the back, which is conſidered by the inhabitants of thoſe countries where he is found wild as a great delicacy. There is no purſuing him with ſafety, except in foreſts, where there are trees large enough to hide the hunters. They are generally taken by

by pit-falls; the inhabitants dig holes in the ground, and cover them over with graſs and boughs of trees; after which they provoke the animal to purſue them, and then get on the oppoſite ſide of the pit-fall, while the enraged creature, running with great violence, falls into the pit, where he is quickly overpowered and killed.

The biſon is found in all the ſouthern parts of the world, throughout the vaſt continent of India, and throughout Africa, from mount Atlas to the Cape of Good Hope, where they are found to have a ſmooth ſoft hair, travel a great pace, and ſupply, in ſome degree, the want of horſes. They are very expert and docile; many of them bend their knees to take up or ſet down the burthens with which they are often loaded; and they are treated by the natives of thoſe countries with a degree of tenderneſs proportioned to their utility.

The tongue of the biſon is almoſt as rough as a file. This animal is ſaid to have a great averſion to a red colour, and if a piece of red cloth, ſilk, &c. is thrown down to him, he will never leave it till he has trod it to pieces.

THE BONASUS.

THE bonaſus is a ſpecies of the wild ox, very thick and bulky, and furniſhed with a mane like a horſe. It is an unwieldy animal, and ſomething larger than our bull; the horns are ſo ſhort as not to exceed a ſpan in length, and ſo turned as to be unfit for wounding; the

noſtrils are wide, and the ears long and broad. The colour of the animal is a deep tawny; except that the forehead and the breaſt are white, and the mane of a darker colour than that of the reſt of the body. It has no teeth in the upper jaw before, like others of this kind, and his tail is ſhort in proportion to the reſt of his body. He bellows like an ox, and his legs are covered with hair. When purſued, it does not attempt to defend itſelf with its horns, but kicks and diſcharges its dung to a great diſtance againſt the purſuer. This animal is found in Lydia, Phrygia, and the adjacent countries.

THE ZEBU, OR BARBARY COW.

THE zebu, or Barbary-cow, is very ſmall; and not exceeding in ſize the biſon of Arabia Petræa, and moſt parts of Africa. The bonaſus and the urus, the biſon and the zebu, are in reality all one and the ſame, differing only in ſome few accidental circumſtances.

THE BUFFALO.

IF we compare the common Buffalo with our cow, there is a very ſtrong ſimilitude between them, both in their form and nature.—The buffalo, however, is leſs beautiful than the cow, his figure is more clumſy, and he carries his head nearer the ground; his limbs are not ſo fleſhy, nor his tail ſo well covered with hair; his body is ſhorter and thicker; his legs are higher; his head ſmaller; his horns not ſo round,

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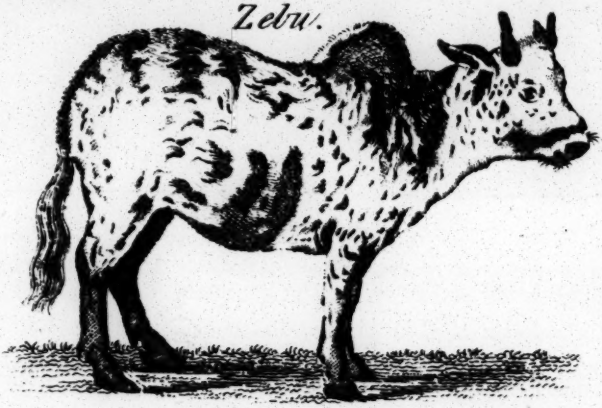
American Buffalo.

Zebu.



many horned Sheep.

round, but compreſſed; one ſide being ſharp with a tuft of hair hanging down between them; his ſkin is alſo harder, thicker, blacker, and thinner of hair; his fleſh, which is blackiſh and hard, is diſagreeable to the taſte and to the ſmell. The milk, though produced in great abundance, is not ſo good as that of the cow. In the warm countries, the greateſt part of their cheeſe and butter is made of the milk of the buffalo. The veal of the buffalo is not better eating than the beef; the hide is the moſt valuable thing he furniſhes, and is well known for its ſoftneſs, thickneſs, and impenetrability.

This animal is employed in agriculture, and in drawing and carrying burthens, being guided by a ring, which is thruſt through his noſe. It is ſaid that two buffaloes, yoked in a waggon, will draw more than four ſtrong horſes; their heads and necks being naturally bent downward, they are the better fitted for the draught.

The wild buffaloes are very dangerous animals, and frequently gore travellers to death; they afterwards trample upon them till they have mangled the whole body: they are, however, leaſt to be feared in the woods, becauſe in their purſuit they often get entangled in the branches of the trees, which affords time to eſcape the danger. There is hardly any other method of avoiding their purſuit; for they are extremely ſwift, and ſuch excellent ſwimmers, as to croſs large rivers with the utmoſt facility.

The

The buffalo is found wild in many parts of Africa and India; but in both they are rendered tame and inured to the yoke. They are alſo very common in Italy.

In general the buffalo is an inoffenſive animal, if undiſturbed; but when he is wounded, or even fired at, his fury is ungovernable. It is, however, remarkable, that although their horns are very formidable, they make more uſe of their feet in combat, and endeavour to tread their enemies to death.

Of ANIMALS of the SHEEP and GOAT Kind.

The SHEEP.

THE ſheep, in its domeſtic and ſervile ſtate, appears to be not only the moſt defenceleſs and harmleſs, but the moſt ſtupid of all animals, and to be diveſted of all inclinations of its own. Every quadruped has a peculiar turn of countenance that generally marks its nature. The ſheep ſeems to have none of thoſe traits which betoken either courage or cunning. It appears a large maſs of fleſh, ſupported upon four ſmall ſtraight legs, ill ſuited for carrying ſuch a burthen; it is aukward in its motions, eaſily fatigued, and frequently ſinks under the weight of its own corpulency. Thoſe which feed

feed upon a more fertile paſture, and grow fat, become entirely feeble; thoſe without horns are duller and heavier than the reſt; and thoſe which have the longeſt and fineſt fleeces, are ſubject to the greateſt number of diſorders. In ſhort, all the changes which have been wrought in this animal by human induſtry, are calculated for human advantage, and not for the benefit of the creature.

No country produces finer ſheep than Great Britain. Their fleeces are large, and well adapted to the various purpoſes of clothing. The Spaniſh fleeces, indeed, are finer, but cannot compare with thoſe of Lincolnſhire or Warwickſhire for weight or utility. The value of the wool annually ſhorn in England at the preſent time is about five millions of pounds ſterling, and when manufactured, with the neceſſary mixture of Spaniſh wool imported, its value is calculated at above twenty millions.

Like other animals that chew the cud, the ſheep wants the upper fore-teeth. It has eight in the lower jaw; two of which drop out, and are replaced at two years old; four of them are renewed at three years, and the remainder at the age of four.

The ewe produces one or two lambs at a time, and ſometimes, though but rarely, three or four; and the ſpring is the uſual time of their bringing forth.

There is hardly any part of this animal that is not ſerviceable to man; of the fleece we make our clothes; the ſkin produces leather, of which are made gloves, parchment, and co-

vers

vers for books; the entrails are formed into ſtrings for fiddles and other muſical inſtruments, and likewiſe coverings for whips; its milk affords both butter and cheeſe, and its fleſh is a delicate and wholeſome food.

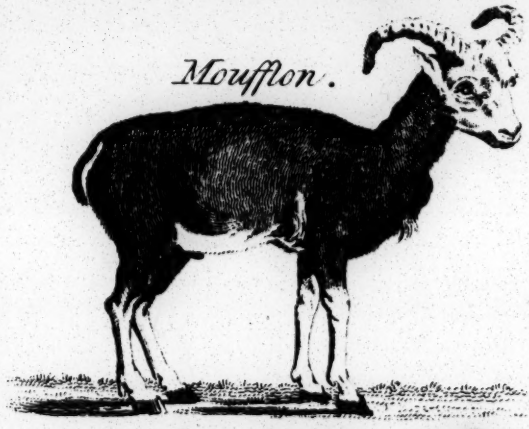
Such perſons as are deſirous of gaining a perfect knowledge of the breed and management of the numerous varieties of ſheep peculiar to this country, and of becoming acquainted with the rapid and aſtoniſhing improvements made within theſe few years paſt by the ſheep-owners, will do well to conſult Mr. MARSHALL's intereſting and valuable treatiſes on the "RURAL ECONOMY" of the different counties of England, lately publiſhed.

THE MANY HORNED SHEEP.

THE many horned or Iceland ſheep reſembles our breed in the form of the body and the tail, but differs conſiderably in the number of horns: they have generally four, and ſometimes they are known to have eight, growing from different parts of the forehead. This animal is large, and in appearance formidable; it is nevertheleſs of the nature of the reſt of its kind, gentle, mild, and timid. Its wool is long, ſmooth, and hairy, and very different from that of the common ſheep: it is of a dark brown colour, and, under its outward coat of hair, it has an internal covering that is fine, ſhort, and ſoft, and rather reſembles fur than wool. There is a kind from Spain,

Broad tailed Sheep.

Mouflon.



Cape Sheep.

Spain, with two upright and two lateral horns, the body covered with wool, with yellowiſh hairs in the fore-part of the neck, fourteen inches in length: ſuch a ſheep was ſhewn alive in London a few years ago.

THE BROAD-TAILED SHEEP.

THE broad-tailed ſheep is very common in Tartary, Arabia, Perſia, Barbary, Syria, and Egypt. This animal is principally remarkable for its large and heavy tail, which often weighs from twenty to thirty pounds. Mr. Pennant informs us that ſome of theſe tails weigh fifty pounds each. It is ſometimes a foot broad, and is uſually ſupported by a ſmall board that goes upon wheels; whence aroſe the ſtory of their having carts to carry their tails. The upper-part of the tail is covered with wool, but it is bare underneath; and the natives, who reckon it a great delicacy, are careful to preſerve it from injury; theſe tails are of a ſubſtance between fat and marrow, and are eaten with the lean of the mutton. In the temperate climates their fleeces are, as in our breed, ſoft and woolly, but they are hairy in the warmer latitudes; yet the enormous ſize of their tails they preſerve in both. In Aleppo and Syria, theſe ſheep are uſually kept in the yards, to preſerve their tails from injury.

THE GUINEA SHEEP.

[See the Plate, *Cape Sheep.*]

THE Guinea ſheep are generally found in all the tropical climates both of Africa and the Eaſt-Indies. They are large, with a rough hairy ſkin, ſhort horns, and ears long and pendulous: they have under their chin a kind of dewlap, and a long mane, which reaches below their neck.

THE MOUFFLON.

THE moufflon, which has all the marks of being the primitive race of ſheep, is only to be found in the more uncultivated parts of Greece, Sardinia, Corſica, and the deſerts of Tartary.

Though covered with hair, it reſembles a ram more than any other animal; it has the eyes placed near the horns, like a ram; and its ears are not ſo long as thoſe of the goat; in its horns it alſo reſembles the ram, and in all the particular contours of its form: there is, indeed, a ſtrong ſimilitude between the horns, they are of a yellow colour; they have three ſides as in the ram, and bend backwards behind the ears in the ſame manner. The muzzle, and the inſide of the ears, are whitiſh, tinctured with yellow.

There is a ſtrong reſemblance between the male and female of this ſpecies; but the female

male is leſs, and her horns never grow to that prodigious ſize they are of in the wild ram.

Such is the ſheep in its ſavage ſtate; a noble, bold, and beautiful animal; but the moſt beautiful creatures are not always the moſt uſeful to man. Human induſtry, to improve its utility, has deſtroyed its grace.

THE GOAT.

SOME domeſtic animals, by not being of the firſt conſequence, are conſidered as nothing: the ſervices of the aſs are ſlighted, becauſe they are inferior to thoſe of the horſe, and thoſe of the goat are diſregarded, becauſe the ſheep ſo far exceeds it. Were the horſe or the ſheep removed from nature, the aſs and the goat would be invaluable.

The goat, in its preſent neglected ſtate, ſeems to vary but little from the wild animals of the ſame kind. It is difficult to confine it to a flock, it chooſes its own paſtures, and loves to ſtray remote from the reſt. It is fond of climbing precipices; and delights in going to the very brink of danger.

The goat is frequently ſeen ſuſpended upon an eminence, hanging over the ſea, upon a very ſmall baſe, and repoſes there with ſecurity. Nature, indeed, has fitted it for traverſing theſe declivities with eaſe; the hoof is hollow underneath, with ſharp edges, ſo that it walks on the ridge of an houſe with as much ſafety as on the level ground.

The goat is a hardy animal and very eaſily ſuſtained; it is therefore chiefly the property of the poor, who have no paſtures. It prefers the neglected wild to the cultivated fields of art: it delights in the heathy mountain, or the ſhrubby rock: the tops of the boughs, or the tender bark of young trees, is its favourite food: it bears immoderate heat better than the ſheep: it is neither terrified at a ſtorm, nor incommoded by the rain; it ſeems to be affected only by immoderate cold, which is ſaid to produce a vertigo, with which this animal is ſometimes afflicted.

The goat produces two at a time; or three at the moſt. But in warmer climates, though it degenerates and is much ſmaller, yet it becomes more fruitful, and generally produces three, four, or five, at a ſingle delivery.

Goat's milk is ſweet, nouriſhing, and medicinal; is leſs apt to curdle on the ſtomach than cow's milk; and therefore preferable for thoſe of a weak digeſtion.

The goat makes the chief poſſeſſion of the inhabitants in ſome parts of Ireland and the Highlands of Scotland. On thoſe mountains where no other animal could ſubſiſt, the goat gleans a ſufficient living; and ſupplies the hardy natives with a varied luxury. Their beds are made of their ſkins, which are ſoft, clean, and wholeſome; they feaſt upon their milk with oat bread; ſome part of it they convert into butter, and ſome into cheeſe.

This animal is to be found in almoſt every part of the world, and ſeems fitted for the neceſſities of man in both extremes.

Syrian Goat
He Goat of Angora.
She Goat of Angora.

The goat is of the ruminating kind, is cloven-footed, and has no fore-teeth in the upper-jaw.

Goats are recommended to lie among horſes; their ſmell, as is ſuppoſed, preventing many diſtempers in thoſe cattle.

THE GOAT OF ANGORA.

THE goat of Angora has the ears longer than ours, and broader in proportion. The horns of the male are about the ſame length with the goat of Europe, but black, and very differently turned, going out horizontally on each ſide of the head, and twiſted round in the manner of a corkſcrew. The horns of the female are ſhorter, and encircle the ear ſomewhat like thoſe of the ram.

Theſe animals are found only near Angora, Beibazer, and Cougua, in Aſiatic Turkey. Thoſe of the laſt place are brown or black; and the two firſt of a ſilky fineneſs and ſilvery whiteneſs, in curled locks of eight or nine inches in length; which is the baſis of our fine camblets. The hair is imported here in the form of thread, for the Turks will not ſuffer it to be exported raw, as the ſpinning gives employment to multitudes of poor. This variety is confined to a diſtrict of two or three days journey in extent; if they change climate, the hair grows coarſer. The goat-herds are very attentive to them, and are perpetually combing and waſhing them.

Nothing can exceed the beauty of the ſtuffs which are made from the hair of almoſt all the animals about Angora.

THE SYRIAN GOAT.

A SECOND variety is the Syrian goat, ſomewhat larger than ours, with broad ears, which almoſt hang down to the ground. Sometimes their ears are ſo troubleſome that the owners cut off one, to enable the animal to feed with more eaſe. The horns are not above two inches and a half long, are black, and bend a little backwards. The colour of the hair is like that of the fox, and there are two excreſcences under the throat, which reſemble the gills of a cock. Theſe animals are chiefly kept round Aleppo to ſupply the people with milk, which is ſweet and well taſted. They are driven through the ſtreets from April to September, in the ſame manner that the aſſes are in London, and their milk is ſold to the inhabitants as they paſs along.

THE BLUE GOAT.

AT the Cape of Good Hope, in Africa, there is an animal called the blue goat. In ſhape it reſembles the domeſtic, but is conſiderably larger, being nearly of the ſize of a ſtag. Its hair is very ſhort, and of a fine ſhining blue; but when the animal is dead, it loſes much

much of its beauty. It has a very long beard; but the horns are ſhorter in proportion than thoſe of other goats, and are turned ſpirally. Its legs are long, but well-proportioned; and the fleſh, though lean, is well-taſted. In that plentiful country, however, it is chiefly killed on account of its ſkin.

THE JUDA GOAT.

THE Juda or Whidaw goat, found in Africa, reſembles ours, except in ſize, it being much ſmaller. This animal is common in Guinea, Angola, and all along the coaſts of Africa. It is very fat, but not much larger than a hare, and its fleſh has a delicious taſte. In that country it is univerſally preferred to mutton.

THE IBEX.

THERE are ſome animals nearly reſembling the goat kind, of whoſe kindred we cannot be certain. The animals in queſtion are the ſhammoy and the ibex.

Both of theſe bear very near approaches to the goat in figure; they both have horns that never ſhed; and even differ more from each other than from the goat. The ibex has a maſculine figure, large horns, and a large beard, and the ſhammoy is deficient in theſe marks of primitive ſtrength and wildneſs. Both, however, ſeem well fitted for their precarious life; they are both extremely ſwift, and capable of

running, without fear or danger, along the ledges of precipices, where the wolf or the fox, though driven by hunger, dares not venture to purſue them; and are both natives of the Alps, the Pyrenees, and the mountains of Greece and Crete.

In the ſhape of its body, the ibex reſembles the goat; but his horns are much larger. They are bent backward, full of knots, and it is ſaid there is a knot added every year. Bellonius ſays, ſome of theſe are found at leaſt two yards long. The ibex has a large black beard, is of a brown colour, and has a thick warm coat of hair. A ſtreak of black runs along the top of the back, and the belly, the back, and the thighs are of a fawn colour.

THE SHAMMOY.

THE ſhammoy, though a wild animal, is eaſily tamed; it is found only in rocky and mountainous places. It is about the ſize of a domeſtic goat, which it in many reſpects reſembles. It is extremely active, has ſhort hair like that of a doe, is of an aſh colour in ſpring, a dun colour, inclining to black, in autumn, and of a blackiſh brown in winter.

The ſhammoy is found in great plenty in the mountains of Dauphiny, of Piedmont, Savoy, Switzerland, Germany, Greece, and Crete. They aſſemble in flocks from four to one hundred, diſperſed upon the crags of the mountains. They bring forth their young in March

and April, and the young ones keep with the dam about five months, if they are not ſeparated by the hunters and the wolves. They live between twenty and thirty years. They generally produce two, and ſeldom more than three at a time.

Their fleſh is good for food; and each animal yields about ten or twelve pounds of ſuet, far ſurpaſſing that of the goat in firmneſs and goodneſs.

Though moſt animals are known to have ſome cry, the ſhammoy has ſcarce any. It has only a kind of feeble bleat, by which the parent calls its young; but, when danger threatens, and it is to alarm the reſt of the flock, it makes a hiſſing noiſe, which is heard at a conſiderable diſtance. This animal is extremely vigilant, and has a quick and piercing eye. Its ſmell is alſo very diſtinguiſhing. It is ſaid that, by its ſmell, it can diſcover a man at half a league diſtance, and gives the earlieſt notice. Upon any apprehenſion of danger it begins its hiſſing note. Having repoſed a moment after this alarm, the animal again looks round, and, perceiving the reality of its fears, continues to hiſs by intervals, till it has ſpread the alarm to a vaſt diſtance. During this time it ſeems violently agitated, ſtrikes the ground with one of its fore feet, and ſometimes with both, bounds from rock to rock, turns and looks about, runs to the edge of the precipice, and, ſtill perceiving the enemy, flies with its utmoſt ſpeed. It is remarked that the hiſſing of the male is much ſharper and louder than that of the female.

The

The eyes of this animal are beautiful, round, and ſparkling. It has two ſmall black horns, of about half a foot long, and riſing from the forehead almoſt betwixt the eyes. Theſe, inſtead of going backwards, or ſideways, jet out forwards, and bend a little, at their extremities, backwards in a ſmall circle. The ears are elegantly placed near the horns; and on each ſide of the face are two ſtripes of black, the reſt being of a whitiſh yellow.

Heat is ſo offenſive to theſe animals, that in the ſummer they are found only in the caverns of rocks, amidſt fragments of unmelted ice, under the ſhade of high ſpreading trees, or of hanging precipices that face the north, and keep off the rays of the ſun.

They always aſcend or deſcend in an oblique direction, and throw themſelves down a rock of thirty feet, and ſafely fix upon ſome protuberance or fragment on the ſide of the precipice, though it ſhould be but juſt large enough to place their feet upon. In their deſcent, however, they ſtrike the rock three or four times with their feet, to ſtop the velocity of their motion.

The ſkin of the ſhammoy, when dreſſed, has been celebrated for its ſoftneſs and warmth; at preſent, however, the leather called ſhammoy is made from thoſe of the tame goat, the ſheep, and the deer.

They are hunted during the winter, partly for their ſkins, and partly for their fleſh. The chace of the ſhammoy is a laborious employ; they muſt be got at by ſurpriſe, and are ſhot with rifle-barrelled guns.

Many

Many medicinal virtues are aſcribed to ſeveral parts of this animal.

THE SIBERIAN GOAT.

THESE animals vary in ſize and colour; the ſkin of one, which is to be ſeen at the Britiſh Muſeum, is covered with pale ferruginous hair, which is ſhort on the ſides, but longer on the top of the neck, and a little erect: on the ſhoulders, and along the lower ſide of the neck, the hair is fourteen inches long: beneath the hair is a kind of ſhort wool, and on the knees a bare ſpot, which appears to have been occaſioned by kneeling to lie down. The tail is ſhort, but the horns are twenty-five inches long, eleven in the girth in the thickeſt place, and nineteen inches diſtance from point to point. It has no beard. The mouth, the forehead, and the ears, reſemble thoſe of a ram.

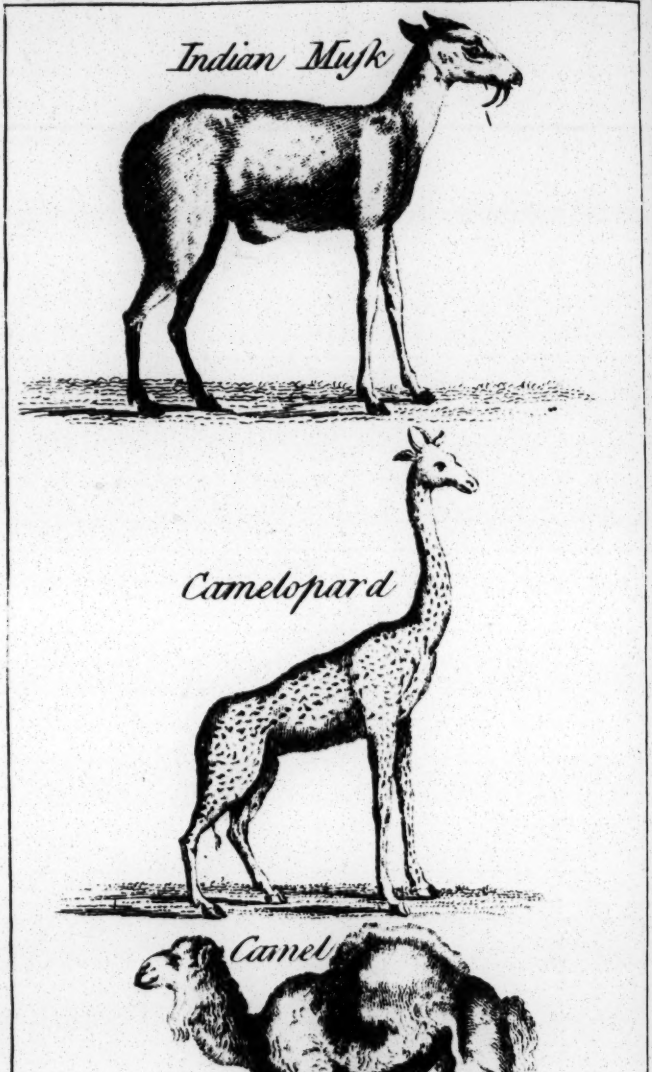
They are found in the north-eaſt parts of Aſia, Barbary, Sardinia, Corſica, and Greece; they live amidſt the mountains, and run with great rapidity among the rocks. Thoſe of Kamtſchatka are ſo very ſtrong, that ten men can hardly hold one; and their horns are ſometimes ſo large as to weigh thirty pounds, and ſo capacious as to afford ſhelter in the hollow of them for young foxes, when they happen by accident to fall off in the deſerts. This animal will grow to the ſize of a young ſtag, and brings forth one at a time, and ſometimes two.

THE

THE CAMELOPARD.

IT is a difficult matter to form an adequate idea of this creature's ſize. It exhibits ſomewhat of the ſhape of the deer, but is deſtitute of its ſymmetry. It has ſhort ſtraight horns, covered with hair, and in the forehead has a tubercle about three inches high reſembling a third horn. Theſe animals have been found eighteen feet high, and ten from the ground to the top of the ſhoulders. The hinder part, however is much lower, ſo that when it ſtands ſtill, it has ſomewhat the appearance of a dog ſitting.

Neither the diſpoſition nor the formation of this animal ſeems calculated for a ſtate of natural hoſtility; its horns are blunt; its teeth are fitted entirely for vegetable paſture; its colour is a dirty white, marked with large broad ruſty ſpots. It is timorous and inoffenſive, and, notwithſtanding its ſize, endeavours to avoid an enemy rather than reſiſt him. It inhabits the foreſts of Æthiopia, and other interior parts of Africa. From the extraordinary length of its fore legs, it cannot graze without dividing them to a great diſtance; it therefore ſubſiſts principally by brouzing on the leaves of trees; and it kneels like a camel previous to its lying down. This animal has been very rarely ſeen in Europe; but it was known to the Romans in early times, and to the Greeks, who called it camelo-pardalis, becauſe they ſuppoſed it to be the offſpring of a camel and a leopard.


Indian Musk
Camelopard
Camel

THE ANTELOPE, OR GAZELL.

THE diſtinguiſhing marks of this tribe of animals, by which they differ from the goat and deer, are theſe: their horns are made differently, being annulated or twiſted; they have bunches of hair upon their fore legs, and have a ſtreak of black, red, or brown on the lower part of their ſides; and in the internal ſide of the ear there are three ſtreaks of whitiſh hair.

Moſt of theſe animals inhabit the hotteſt part of the globe: it is, however, remarkable, that notwithſtanding the warmth of North America appears ſuited to their nature, yet not a ſingle ſpecies has ever been diſcovered in any part of the new world; but they are very numerous in Aſia and Africa.

Almoſt every ſpecies of the antelope have the following general agreements: they are animals of a moſt elegant and active make, of a reſtleſs and timid diſpoſition, extremely vigilant, of great vivacity, remarkably ſwift and agile, and moſt of their boundings are ſo light and ſo elaſtic, as to ſtrike the ſpectator with aſtoniſhment. Like the hare, its hinder legs are longer than thoſe before, which adds to its ſecurity in aſcending or deſcending ſteep places; like the ſheep, they have all a cloven hoof; and they have alſo permanent horns; but thoſe of the female are ſmaller than thoſe of the male.

The chace of theſe animals is a favourite diverſion with the Eaſtern nations, therefore the beſt

beſt proofs of the rapid ſpeed of the antelope tribe may be collected from them. Bernier, in his Travels, informs us, that the greyhound, which is the fleeteſt of all dogs, is unequal in the courſe; and the ſportſman requires the aid of the falcon, trained to the work, to ſeize on the animal and impede its motions, to give the dogs an opportunity of overtaking it. In India and Perſia a kind of leopard is made uſe of in the chace: it is not by ſwiftneſs of foot that this animal takes its prey, but by the greatneſs of his ſprings, by motions ſimilar to that of the antelope; but if in the firſt attempt the leopard ſhould fail, the game eſcapes.

The fleetneſs of the antelope was proverbial in the country it inhabited, even in the earlieſt times; the Gadites were ſaid to be as ſwift as the roes upon the mountains. What is extremely ſingular, this animal will ſtop for a moment in the midſt of its courſe, to gaze at its purſuers, and then reſume its flight.

Of all creatures in the world the antelope is ſuppoſed to have the moſt beautiful eye; it is extremely brilliant, and yet ſo meek, that all the Eaſtern poets compare the eyes of their miſtreſſes to thoſe of this animal.

Of the antelope, ſome ſpecies form herds of two or three thouſands, while others aſſemble in ſmall parties of five or ſix. They generally inhabit hilly countries, though ſome reſide in the plains: they brouze and feed on the tender ſhoots of trees, like the goat, which renders their fleſh delicious; but thoſe which are fattened in houſes have not that excellent flavour.

THE COMMON ANTELOPE.

THE common antelope is ſomewhat ſmaller than the fallow deer or buck, and reſembling it in all the proportions of its body. It has upright horns twiſted ſpirally, and ſurrounded almoſt to the top with prominent rings; the horns are about ſixteen inches long, and twelve inches diſtant from point to point. The colour of this animal is brown mixed with red, and duſky; its belly, and the inſide of its thighs, are white; it has a ſhort tail, which is black above and white beneath. The female is without horns. This creature is found principally in Barbary.

THE BLUE ANTELOPE.

THE colour of this animal, when alive, is a fine blue: but, when dead, changes to a bluiſh grey, with a mixture of white. Its horns are twenty inches long, ſharp pointed, taper, and bending in an arch backwards; they are marked with twenty prominent rings, but are ſmooth towards their points. This antelope is ſomewhat larger than a buck: it has long hair, a white belly, a tail ſeven inches long, and a large white mark between each eye.

THE WHITE-FOOTED ANTELOPE.

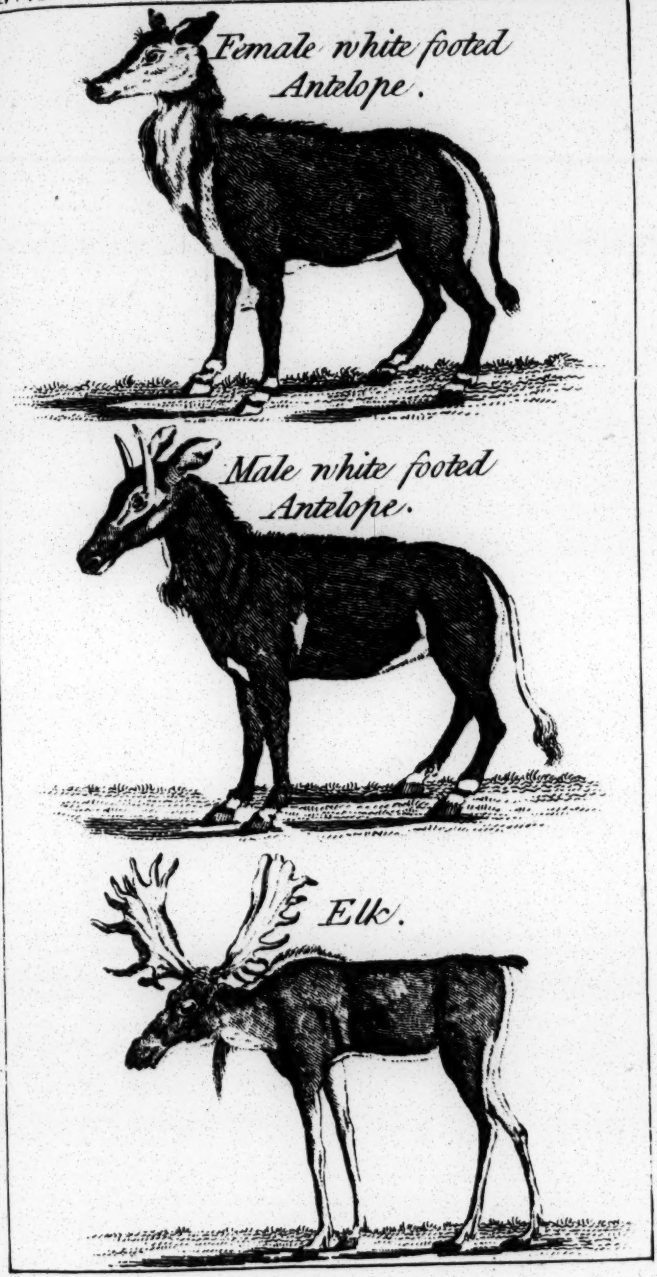
THE height of this animal is about four feet, and the colour a dark grey. It has ſhort horns, bending a little forward; its ears are large, and marked with two black ſtripes; it has a ſmall black mane, which extends half way down the back, and a tuft of long black hairs on the fore part of its neck, above which is a large ſpot of white; another on the cheſt between the fore legs, one white ſpot on each fore foot, and two on each hind foot. Its tail, which is pretty long, is tufted with black hairs. The female is without horns, and of a pale brown colour; it has a mane, tuft, and ſtriped ears like the male, and is a native of India.

ANIMALS OF THE DEER KIND.

THE ELK, OR FEMALE MOOSE.

THIS animal is known in Europe under the name of the elk, and in America by that of the mooſe deer. They are ſometimes taken in the foreſts of Germany and Ruſſia, but are found in great plenty in North America, where the natives purſue and track them in the ſnow.

Mr. Pennant thus deſcribes a young female which he ſaw a few years ago at the Marquis of Rocking-


Female white footed
Antelope.
Male white footed
Antelope.
Elk.

Rockingham's houſe at Parſon's Green. "A female, of about a year old, was to the top of the withers five feet high, or fifteen hands; the head alone two feet long; the length of the animal from noſe to tail about ſeven feet; the neck much ſhorter than the head, with a ſhort thick upright mane, of a light brown colour; the eyes ſmall; the ears one foot long, very broad, and ſlouching; noſtrils very large; the upper lip ſquare, hanging greatly over the lower, and has a deep ſulcus in the middle, ſo as to appear almoſt bifid; noſe very broad; under the throat a ſmall excreſcence, from whence hung a long tuft of coarſe black hair; the withers very high; fore legs three feet three inches long; from the bottom of the hoof to the end of the tibia two feet four inches; the hind legs much ſhorter than the fore legs; hoofs very much cloven; tail very ſhort, duſky above, white beneath; colour of the body in general a hoary black; but more grey about the face than any where elſe. This was brought from North America, and was called the mooſe deer. A male of this ſpecies, and the horns of others, having been brought over of late years, prove this, on compariſon with the horns of the European elk, to be the ſame animal."

Theſe animals delight in cold countries, feeding upon graſs in ſummer, and the bark of trees in winter.

The fleſh has an agreeable taſte, and is ſaid to be nouriſhing. The ſkin is ſtrong, and ſo thick, that it has been often known to turn a muſket ball. It is nevertheleſs ſoft and pliable,

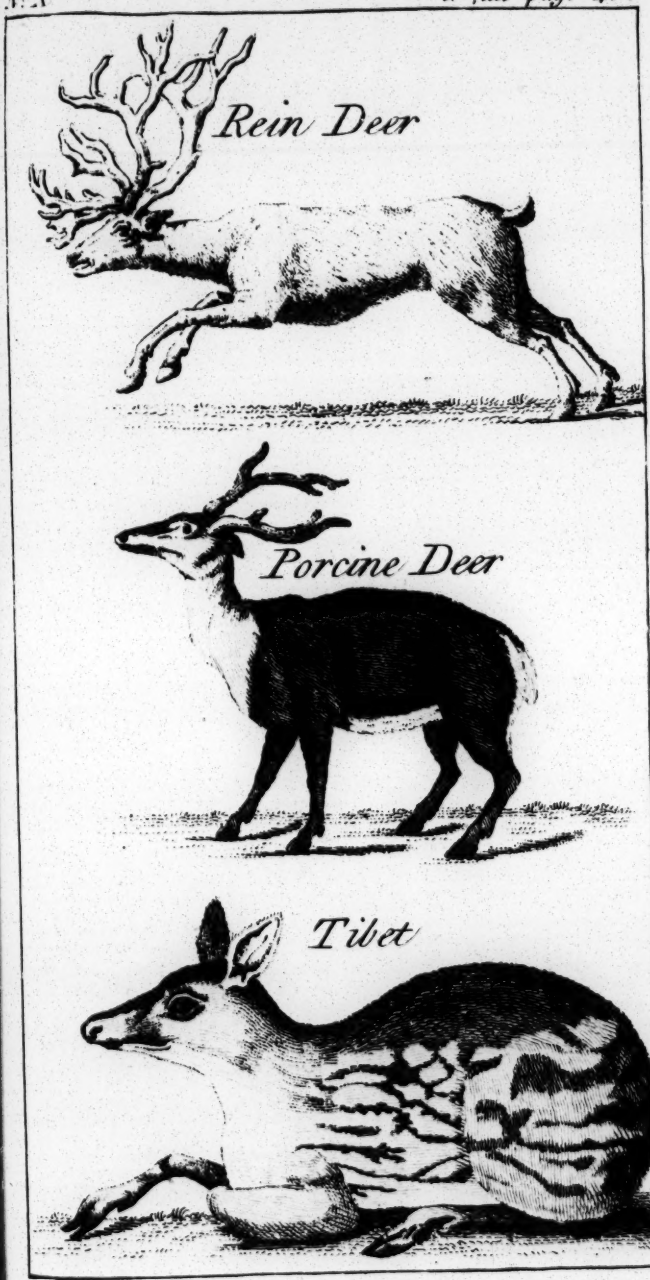
and. when tanned, is extremely durable, though light.

Theſe animals have a ſingular gait, their pace being a high ſhambling trot; but they move ſwiftly. Though they are, in general, very inoffenſive animals, yet, in the ſeaſon of heat, or when wounded, they become very furious, and attack with both horns and hoofs.

THE REIN DEER.

THE rein deer inhabits the icy regions of the north; and all attempts to accuſtom it to a more ſouthern climate have been ineffectual. From this animal alone the natives of Lapland and Greenland ſupply moſt of their wants. It anſwers the purpoſes of an horſe, and draws their ſledges with amazing ſwiftneſs over the frozen lakes and rivers, or over the ſnow, which in the winter ſeaſon covers the whole country; it anſwers the purpoſes of a cow, in furniſhing them with milk and cheeſe; and it anſwers the purpoſes of the ſheep, in furniſhing them with a warm, though homely kind of covering; the fleſh ſerves them for food; the tendons for bowſtrings, and, when ſplit, are uſed inſtead of thread.

The rein deer has large, but ſlender horns, bending forwards, palmated towards the top, with brow antlers, broad and palmated. Both the male and female have horns; but thoſe of the female are leſs, and have fewer branches. The height of a full-grown rein deer is about four


Rein Deer
Porcine Deer
Tibet

four feet ſix inches: it always has a black ſpace round the eye. When it firſt ſheds its coat the hairs are of a browniſh aſh colour, but afterwards change to a whitiſh. It has large hoofs, and a ſhort tail; its pace is rather a trot than a bounding, and he can continue it for a whole day; its hoofs are cloven and moveable, ſo that he can ſpread them occaſionally to prevent his ſinking in the ſnow. The feet, juſt at the inſertion of the hoof, are ſurrounded with a ring of white.

The female brings forth young in the middle of May, and gives milk till the middle of October. During the ſummer, the herdſman returns every morning and evening to the cottage with his deer to be milked, of which the female ſupplies about a pint, which is ſuperior to that of a cow.

The chief uſe made of this animal, however, is in drawing the ſledge, to which the Laplander yokes them by a ſtrap, which goes round the neck, and comes down between the legs. The perſon who ſits upon the ſledge guides the animal with a cord faſtened round the horns, who encourages it to proceed by ſpeaking to it, and alſo drives it with a goad. When urged to it, they will trot between fifty and ſixty Engliſh miles at one ſtretch. In general, without any extraordinary efforts, they can travel about thirty miles without halting. This is the only method of travelling in that country; but it can be performed only in winter, when the ſnow is glazed over with ice.

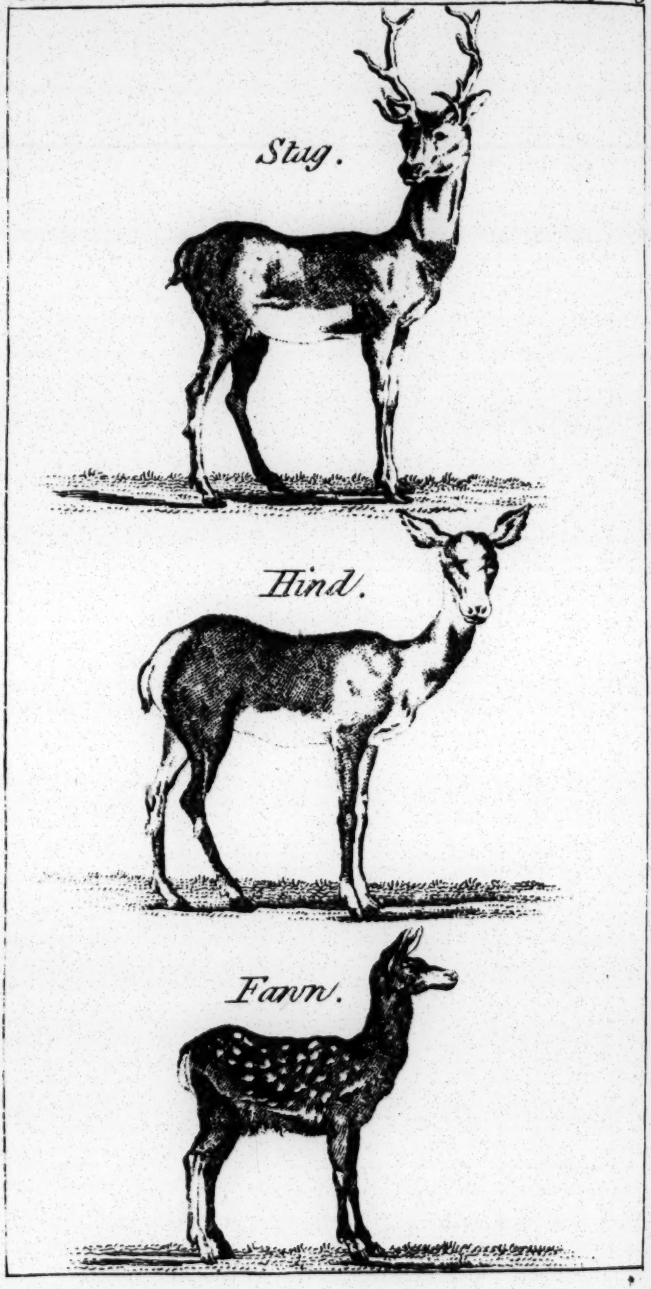
The females begin to breed when they are about two years old, go eight months with young, and uſually bring forth two at a time. The young do not acquire their full growth and ſtrength until they are about four years old; at which time they are broke in, and managed for drawing the ſledge. They live about ſixteen years, and, when at a proper age, the Laplander generally kills them for their fleſh and their ſkins.

THE FALLOW DEER.

THE fallow deer are ſmaller, leſs robuſt, and leſs ſavage than thoſe of the ſtag kind; they are ſeldom found wild in the foreſt, but are generally bred up in parks, and kept for the purpoſes of hunting, or of luxury, their fleſh being reckoned ſuperior to that of any other animal. The colour of this deer is various, reddiſh, deep brown, white, and ſpotted; and its tail is longer than that of the ſtag.

The doe goes about eight months with young, and, in general, brings forth but one at a time. The buck and the ſtag differ eſſentially in ſome particulars; the buck comes to perfection in three years, and lives ſixteen, but the ſtag is ſeven years before he comes to perfection, and lives forty years.

This animal being a beaſt of the chace, hunters have invented for him the following names: The firſt year the buck is called a fawn, the ſecond a pricket, the third a ſorel, the fourth a ſore, the fifth he obtains the appellation of a buck


Stag.
Hind.
Fawn.

buck of the firſt head, and the ſixth a great buck. The female has not been honoured with ſo many names; it is called a doe, the firſt year a fawn, and the ſecond a tegg. In general the ſtrength, cunning, and courage of the buck are inferior to thoſe of the ſtag, and conſequently it cannot afford a chace ſo long, ſo various, nor ſo obſtinate.

The uſes of theſe animals are almoſt ſimilar: to what purpoſes the ſkin of the buck and doe is applied, is ſufficiently known to every one; the horns of the ſtag are of great uſe in mechanics; and all the horns of the deer kind are extremely compact, ſolid, hard, and weighty, ſerving to make excellent handles for knives, and ſeveral other utenſils. They abound in that ſalt which is the baſis of the ſpirit of hartſhorn; and, after the ſalts are extracted, the remains, when calcined, become a valuable aſtringent in fluxes, known by the name of burnt hartſhorn.

THE STAG.

THE ſtag, or hart, the female of which is called a hind, and the young a calf, differs from a fallow deer both in ſize and in horns. The ſtag is much larger, and his horns are round; but thoſe of the fallow kind are broad and palmated. The firſt year the ſtag has properly no horns, but a kind of horny excreſcence, which is ſhort, rough, and covered with a hairy ſkin; the next year the horns are ſingle and ſtraight; they have two antlers the third year,

year, three the fourth, four the fifth, and five the ſixth. The animal's age, however, cannot always be certainly known by theſe, for ſometimes they are more, and frequently leſs. The antlers do not always increaſe when arrived at the ſixth year; and, though there may be ſix or ſeven antlers on each ſide, the animal's age is then eſtimated rather from their ſize, and the thickneſs of the branch which ſuſtains them, than from their number.

Theſe horns, notwithſtanding their ſize, are ſhed annually, and new ones ſucceed them in their place. Soon after ſhedding the former horns, the new ones are very painful, and have a quick ſenſibility. At that time the flies are extremely troubleſome to the animal.

The colour of the ſtag in England is generally a red, or reddiſh brown, with ſome black about the face, and a black liſt down the hinder part of the neck, and between the ſhoulders: in other countries the greater number are brown, and ſome few are white. The ſtag eats ſlowly, and is very delicate in the choice of his food. During the winter the ſtag ſeldom drinks, and ſtill leſs in the ſpring, while the plants are moiſt and tender; but in the heat of ſummer he frequently viſits lakes and rivers to ſlake his thirſt; and, when it appears neceſſary, he can ſwim with great ſtrength and eaſe.

The female goes about eight months with young, and ſeldom produces more than one.

In every age and every nation mankind have made the chace of the ſtag one of their moſt favourite purſuits.

In

In England the ſtag and the buck are hunted in the ſame manner; the animal is generally driven from ſome gentleman's park, and then purſued through the open country. But thoſe who purſue the wild animal have a nobler chace. To let looſe a creature merely to catch it again appears to be a poor purſuit, but to purſue an animal that owns no proprietor, and which he that firſt ſeizes may be ſaid to be the poſſeſſor, has ſomething more rational in it. Beſides, the mountain ſtag, having paſſed his whole life in a ſtate of continual apprehenſion, he knows every ſtratagem to miſlead or confound his purſuers, and gives them an opportunity of exerciſing the paſſions of hope and fear, which ariſe from the uncertainty of ſucceſs.

The firſt year the ſtag is called a calf, or hind calf, the ſecond a knobber, the third a brock, the fourth a ſtaggard, the fifth a ſtag, and the ſixth an hart. The female is called an hind; ſhe is a calf the firſt year, a hearſe the ſecond, and a hind the third.

Stags are common to Europe, Barbary, the north of Aſia, and North America.

THE PORCINE DEER.

THE height of this animal is about two feet two inches, the length of its body, from the tip of the noſe to the tail, three feet ſix inches; its horns are ſlender, triple pronged, thirteen inches in length, and ſix inches diſtant at the baſe,

baſe, and its head about ten inches long. The body is thick and clumſy, tail about eight inches long, and legs fine and ſlender. It is brown on the upper part of the neck, body, and ſides, but of a lighter colour on the belly and rump. The late Lord Clive had one of theſe in his poſſeſſion, which he brought from ſome part of India. From the thickneſs of its body, this animal is alſo called a hog-deer.

THE ROEBUCK.

THE roebuck is found in moſt parts of Europe, as far north as Norway. It is one of the leaſt of the deer kind, being only three feet four inches long, and two feet two inches high; the horns, which are about eight inches long, are upright, round, and divided into only three branches. The body is covered with very long hair; the lower part of each hair is aſh-colour, the points are yellow, and near the ends is a narrow bar of black. On the face the hairs are black, tipped with aſh-colour; the ears, which are long, are covered with long hair, and their inſides are of a pale yellow; they are black on the borders of the mouth and eyes.

They are of a yellowiſh white on the cheſt, belly, and legs, and the inſide of the thighs; the rump is of a pure white, and the tail is very ſhort. The roebuck has an elegant figure, and is formed for agility. The female produces two fawns at a time; and the fleſh of theſe creatures is reckoned extremely delicate.

THE MUSK.

THE muſk animal has no horns, and it is doubtful whether it chews the cud or not. It wants the fore teeth in the upper jaw, but it has on each ſide a ſlender tuſk, near two inches long, very ſhort on the inner edge, and hanging out quite expoſed to view. It is three feet ſix inches long from the head to the tail, and the head is about half a foot long. It reſembles a greyhound in the fore part of the head, and the ears are erect, and about three inches long; but the length of the tail does not exceed two inches. It is cloven-footed, like animals of the goat kind. It is brown and white alternately from the root to the point; it is brown on the head and thighs, white under the belly, and has a white tail. There is a tuft of thick hair on each ſide of the lower jaw under the corners of the mouth. The hair of this animal is remarkable for its ſoftneſs and fine texture.

The female is not ſo large as the male; its noſe is ſharper; it wants the two tuſks, and has two ſmall teats. It inhabits the kingdom of Tibet, the province of Mohang-Meng, in China, Tonquin, and Bontan, delights in ſolitude, avoids mankind, and, if purſued, aſcends to the higheſt mountains, inacceſſible to men or dogs. It is a very timid animal, and has the ſenſe of hearing ſo quick, that it can diſcover an enemy at a vaſt diſtance.

The celebrated drug that bears the name of this animal is produced from the male. It is found

found in a bag or tumour on the belly of that ſex only, of the ſize of a hen's egg. It is furniſhed with two ſmall orifices, the largeſt is oblong, the other round; the one is naked, and the other covered with long hairs. In this bag the muſk is contained, and, on ſqueezing it, is forced through the apertures, and conſiſts of a fat brown matter. The hunters cut off the bag and preſerve it for ſale; but frequently adulterate the contents, by adding other inſignificant articles with it, to increaſe the weight.

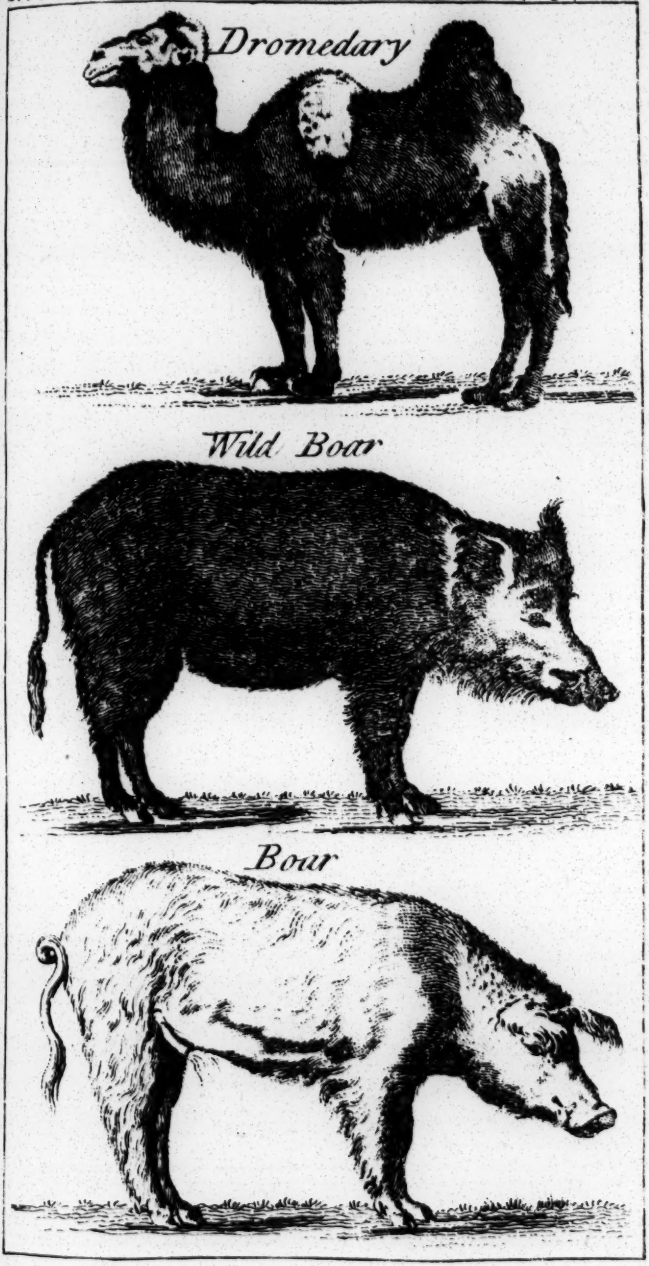
THE INDIAN MUSK.

THE Indian muſk is of an olive colour, and about ſeventeen inches in length; its throat, breaſt, and belly, are white; its ſides and haunches are ſpotted, and barred tranſverſely with white; it has large open ears, and a very ſhort tail. It is an inhabitant of Ceylon.

THE CAMEL AND THE DROMEDARY.

THE chief difference between the camel and the dromedary is this, that the camel has two bunches upon his back, and the dromedary only one. Of the two the dromedary is the moſt numerous; the camel is ſeldom ſeen except in Turkey and the countries of the Levant; while the other is found all over the deſerts of Arabia, Perſia, the ſouthern parts of Africa, Tartary, and in many parts of the Eaſt Indies.

The


Dromedary
Wild Boar
Bour

The camel is the moſt temperate of all animals. They will travel many days only with a few dates, or ſome ſmall balls of bean or barley meal; or perhaps only the miſerable thorny plants they meet with in the deſerts. Their great powers of ſuſtaining abſtinence from drinking, enables them to paſs over unwatered tracts for ſeven or eight days without water. Without theſe creatures, great part of Aſia and Africa would be wretched; by them the ſole commerce is carried on through dry and ſcorching tracts, impaſſable but by thoſe beaſts. Their milk is alſo a part of the ſubſiſtence of the inhabitants; they feed upon the fleſh of this animal when it is young, and cloath themſelves with its hair; for, in the winter, it is covered with long hair, which falls off in the ſpring, is carefully gathered and wove into ſtuffs for cloathing, or for cloths to cover their tents. If the natives fear an invading enemy, their camels ſerve them in flight; and they have been known to travel an hundred miles in a day; and thus, by means of this animal, the Arabian finds ſupport and ſafety.

A large camel will carry a load of a thouſand or twelve hundred pounds weight. It kneels down to be loaded, but riſes the moment it finds the burthen equal to its ſtrength. It will not permit an ounce more to be put upon it.

It is remarkable, that a camel can diſcover water by ſcent, at the diſtance of half a league, and, after a long abſtinence, will haſten towards it, long before their drivers perceive where it lies: for food it prefers the thiſtle, the

nettle, and the coarſeſt weeds, to the fineſt paſture.

The female goes with young about a year, and, like all other large animals, produces but one at a time. Theſe animals live about forty or fifty years.

The camel has a ſmall head, ſhort ears, a long neck, ſlender and bending. Its height to the top of the bunch is about ſix feet ſix inches; the colour of the hair on the protuberance is duſky, and that on the other parts is a reddiſh aſh. It has a long tail, ſmall hoofs, and flat feet divided above, but not through. On the legs it has ſix calloſities; one on each knee; one on the inſide of each fore leg on the upper joint; one on the inſide of the hind leg, at the bottom of the thigh, and another on the lower part of the breaſt.

OF ANIMALS OF THE HOG KIND.

THE hog ſeems to be more imperfectly formed than the other animals we have rendered domeſtic around us. It is leſs active in its motions, and leſs capable of knowing what to purſue, or what to avoid. The thickneſs of its hide, and the coarſeneſs of its hair, render it almoſt inſenſible to blows. This animal is, by nature, ſtupid, drowſy, and inactive: when undiſturbed it will ſleep half its time; but it is frequently rouſed by the calls of appetite;

appetite; and when thoſe demands are ſatisfied, it again retires to reſt. Its whole life is one continued round of gluttony and ſleep; and if its cravings were fully ſupplied with food, it would ſoon become a greater load than its legs would be able to ſupport; though it would ſtill continue feeding, lying down or kneeling, an helpleſs inſtance of indulged ſenſuality. It is reſtleſs at a change of weather, and is ſo agitated with high winds, as to run violently, ſcreaming horribly at the ſame time. It is fond of wallowing in the dirt, either to cool its ſurfeited body, or to deſtroy a ſort of louſe or inſect that frequently infeſts them. This animal will live eighteen or twenty years; and the female will produce till the age of fifteen: the ſow goes four months with young. As they bring forth from ten to twenty at a litter, they would ſoon become very numerous, if they were not diminiſhed for the ſupport of man. The fleſh of this animal is a wholeſome food for athletic conſtitutions, or thoſe that uſe much exerciſe; but is not proper for ſuch as lead a ſedentary life: it is, however, an article of great importance to a naval and commercial nation, as it takes ſalt better than any other fleſh, and conſequently is capable of being longer preſerved. The lard is extremely uſeful in medicine, being an ingredient in various ſorts of plaiſters, and the briſtles are formed into bruſhes of ſeveral ſorts.

Weſtphalia is ſaid to produce the beſt hams in Europe, and Hampſhire the beſt bacon in England.

THE WILD BOAR.

THE wild boar is neither ſo ſtupid nor ſo filthy an animal as that which we have reduced to tameneſs; his body is much ſmaller than that of the tame hog; his ſnout is longer; and his ears, which are black, are rounder and ſhorter. He does not vary in his colour like thoſe of the domeſtic kind, being always of an iron-grey, inclining to black; his feet and tail are black. His tuſks are larger than thoſe of the common hog; ſome of them having been ſeen almoſt a foot long. Theſe grow from both the upper and under jaw, bending upwards circularly, and are exceeding ſharp at the points.

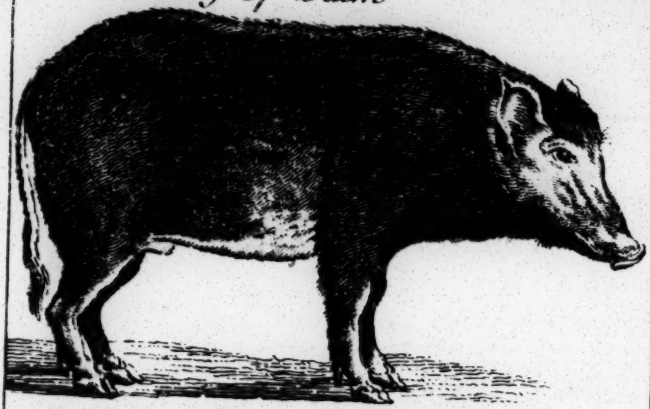
The whole litter of pigs follows the ſow the three firſt years; and the family lives in the herd together: uniting their common forces againſt the wolf, or other beaſts of prey. But, when the wild boar is arrived at the ſtate of maturity, he becomes conſcious of his own ſtrength, and walks the foreſt fearleſs and alone. He is then afraid of no ſingle enemy, and will not turn out of his way even for man himſelf; he does not ſeem to ſeek nor to avoid danger. He inhabits moſt parts of Europe, except the Britiſh iſles, and the countries north of the Baltic. In America, theſe animals are uſeful by clearing the country of rattle-ſnakes, which they devour with ſafety.

This animal feeds chiefly upon roots and vegetables; being content with ſuch proviſions

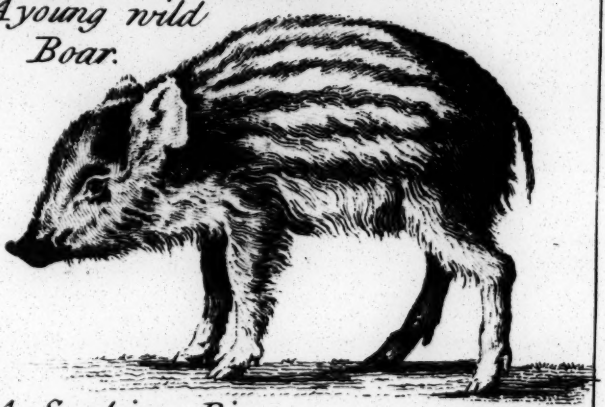
as

to face page 52.

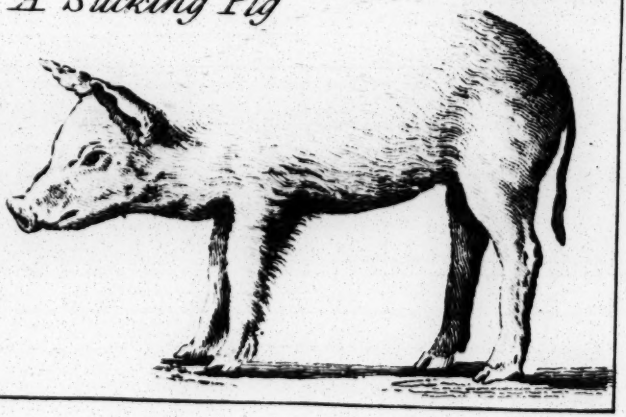
Hog of Siam

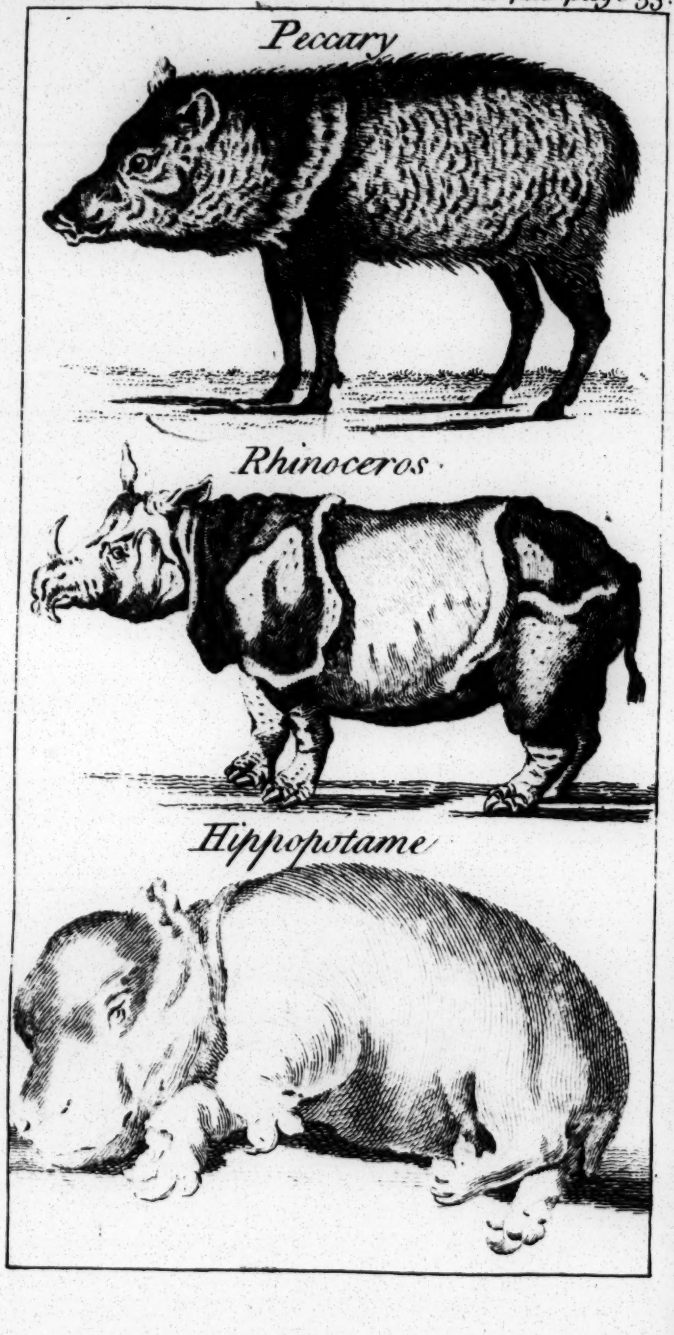


A young wild Boar.



A Sucking Pig




Peccary
Rhinoceros
Hippopotame

as it procures without danger, it ſeldom attacks any other animal: but, if an animal happens to die in the foreſt, or is ſo wounded that it cannot make any reſiſtance, it becomes his prey; for he never refuſes animal food, however putrid, if he can procure it without difficulty.

Hunting the wild boar is a favourite amuſement in thoſe countries where they inhabit; and ſmall maſtiffs are generally uſed in the chace.

THE PECCARY, OR MEXICAN HOG.

THE peccary, in ſome degree, reſembles a ſmall hog of the common kind, but its body is not ſo bulky, its legs are ſmaller, its briſtles thicker and ſtronger than thoſe of the European kind, and more like thoſe of a hedgehog; inſtead of a tail, it has got a little fleſhy protuberance, which does not cover its poſteriors: from the ſhoulders to the breaſt it has a band of white; and, upon its back, a lump reſembling the navel in other animals, which diſcharges a liquor of very fœtid ſmell. It is a native of the hotteſt parts of South America, and ſome of the Antilles, and lives in the foreſts, chiefly on the mountains. It is not ſo fat as the common hog, nor does it delight in mire or marſhy places. It feeds on fruits, vegetables, roots, toads, and ſerpents; and is

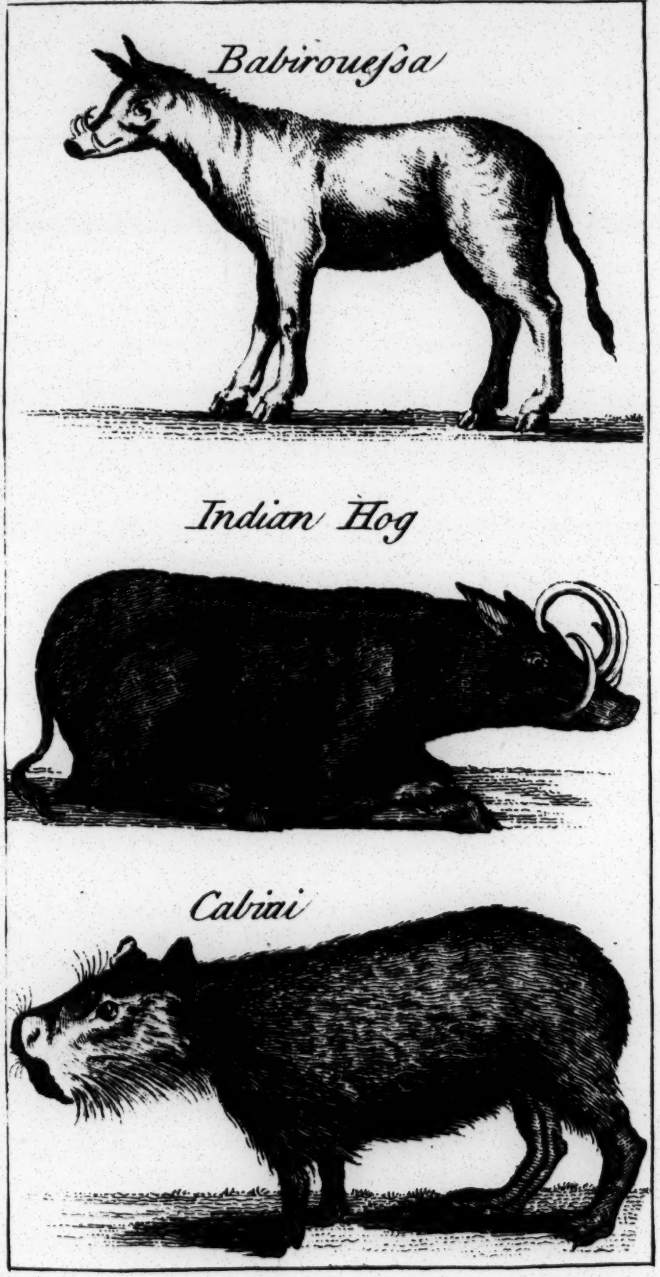
very dexterous in ſkinning the latter, holding them with its fore feet. The peccary, like the hog, is very prolific.

THE BABYROUESSA, OR INDIAN HOG.

THIS animal has ſome weak briſtles along the back, but the reſt of the body is covered with fine ſhort wool, reſembling that of a lamb: the tail ends in a tuft, and is often twiſted. The body is ſquare and plump, and the head is oblong and narrow, with a ſnout proper for rooting in the earth. The ears are ſmall, erect, and ſharp-pointed; and the eyes are very ſmall. It has four cutting teeth in the upper, and ſix in the lower jaw; with ſix grinders to each jaw: it has alſo two tuſks in the lower jaw, pointing towards the eyes, and ſtanding almoſt eight inches out of their ſockets. From two ſockets on the outſide of the upper jaw proceed two other teeth, twelve inches long, and bending like horns, their ends almoſt touching the forehead. The tuſks, as may be perceived by their form, are uſeleſs in combat; but they delight in reſting their heads, by hooking their upper tuſks on ſome bough. The feet are like thoſe of the European hogs, and the legs long and ſlender.

It inhabits Buero, a ſmall iſland near Amboyna: it is found alſo in Celebes, but neither on the continent of Aſia nor Africa.

THE


Babirouessa
Indian Hog
Cabriai

THE CABIAI, OR CAPIBERA.

THE cabiai, in the ſhape of its body, and the colour and coarſeneſs of its hair, reſembles an hog of about two years old. It has a ſhort thick neck, a rounded briſtly back, delights in the water and marſhy places, produces many young at a time, and, like the hog, feeds upon both animal and vegetable food; the head, however, is longer than that of the hog, the eyes larger, and the ſnout is ſplit, like that of a rabbit or hare, and furniſhed with ſtrong thick whiſkers; the mouth of the cabiai is ſmaller, its teeth are different, and it is without tuſks; it has no tail, and, inſtead of a cloven hoof, like all others of this kind, it is, in a great degree, web-footed, and calculated for ſwimming and living in the water. It ſeems, indeed, to delight in that element, and ſome naturaliſts have therefore called it the water hog. It inhabits South America, and, like the otter, is chiefly ſeen frequenting the borders of lakes and rivers. It preys upon fiſh, corn, fruit, and ſugar canes. When purſued by the hunter, it plunges into a lake or river, and continues ſo long at the bottom, that he can have no hopes of taking it there.

This animal is naturally of a gentle diſpoſition, and, when taken young, is eaſily tamed. Its fleſh, which is fat and tender, has a fiſhy taſte; but its head is ſaid to be delicate food.

THE RHINOCEROS.

THIS animal inhabits Bengal, China, Sumatra, Angola, Æthiopia, and the country as low as the Cape. Next to the elephant, it is the moſt powerful of animals. It is generally about twelve feet long, from the tip of the noſe to the inſertion of the tail; and from ſix to ſeven feet high. Its head is furniſhed with a ſingle horn, placed near the end of the noſe, which is generally from three feet to three feet and a half long. The upper lip is long, hanging over the lower, and ending in a point. It is very pliable, and ſerves to collect its food, and deliver it into the mouth; the noſtrils are placed tranſverſely; the ears are large, erect, and pointed; the eyes ſmall, and without luſtre; the ſkin is almoſt naked, rough, and knotty, and lying upon the neck and body in vaſt folds. The ſkin, which is of a dirty brown colour, is ſo hard and thick, as to reſiſt a muſket ball: the belly hangs low; the legs are ſhort, ſtrong, and thick; and the hoofs divided into three parts, each pointing forward. It delights in ſhady foreſts, and the neighbourhood of rivers and marſhy places; like the hog, it loves to wallow in the mire, and is ſaid, by that means, to give ſhelter in the folds of its ſkin to ſcorpions, centipes, and other inſects. It is a ſolitary, quiet, and inoffenſive animal, but ſwift and furious when it is enraged.

The tiger will more willingly attack any other enemy of the foreſt than this formidable creature.

creature. It is defended on every ſide by a thick horny hide, which cannot be pierced by the claws of the lion or the tiger, and it is armed before with a weapon that even the elephant does not chooſe to oppoſe.

In 1792, a rhinoceros was ſhewn at the Lyceum in the Strand, London. It was of a gentle diſpoſition, and ſuffered itſelf to be handled by all viſitors, never attempting to do any miſchief, except when hungry or when abuſed; in ſuch caſes, its fury could only be appeaſed by giving it ſomething to eat. When it was angry, it would jump with violence againſt the walls of its room, but ſeldom attempted to attack its keeper, and was obedient to his threats.

The rhinoceros brings forth at about three years old, and will live till it is about twenty. Its fleſh is eaten, and Kolben ſays, it is very good. Cups are made of its horn, and many medicinal virtues are aſcribed to it, when taken in powder, but ſeemingly without foundation. There are ſome varieties in this animal found in Africa with a double horn.

The rhinoceros is the unicorn mentioned in Holy Writ.

THE HIPPOPOTAME, OR SEA-HORSE.

THE hippopotame is as large and as formidable as the rhinoceros, and, in bulk, is ſecond only to the elephant. The length of the male has been found to be ſeventeen feet from the extremity of the ſnout to the inſertion of the tail;

tail; the circumference of its body is fifteen feet, and its height almoſt ſeven; the legs near three feet, and the head almoſt four. Haſſelquiſt ſays, its hide is a load for a camel. Its jaws extend about two feet, and it has four cutting teeth in each jaw, which are above a foot long. The head is of an enormous ſize; the ears ſmall and pointed, and lined within with a ſhort fine hair; on the lips are ſome ſtrong hairs ſcattered in bunches. The hair on the body is very thin, of a lightiſh colour, and, at firſt ſight, hardly diſcernible; the ſkin is very thick and ſtrong, and, though not able to reſiſt a muſket ball, is impenetrable to the ſtroke of a ſabre; the tail is flat and pointed, and about a foot long; the hoofs are divided into four parts, and, in ſome meaſure, reſemble thoſe of the elephant.

This creature, whoſe figure is ſomething between that of an ox and a hog, reſides chiefly at the bottom of the great rivers and lakes of Africa, from the Niger to the Cape of Good Hope. It leads an indolent kind of life, and ſeems ſeldom diſpoſed for action, except when prompted by the calls of hunger. In the water they purſue their prey with great ſwiftneſs and perſeverance, and continue at the bottom for thirty or forty minutes without riſing to take breath. But when the fiſhy food is not ſupplied in ſufficient abundance, this creature is forced to come upon land, where it commits dreadful havock on the ſugar canes, and plantations of rice and millet: it alſo feeds on the roots of trees, which it looſens with its teeth.

When

When it is purſued it takes the water, plunges in, and ſinks to the bottom. If wounded, it will riſe and attack boats or canoes with great fury, and often ſink them by biting large pieces out of the ſides. This animal, however, is of a very inoffenſive diſpoſition, and never attacks the mariners in their boats, except they inadvertently ſtrike againſt it, or otherwiſe diſturb its repoſe; but they are then in imminent danger of going to the bottom.

The female always comes upon land to bring forth, and ſeldom produces above one at a time. Theſe animals are at that time extremely timorous, and as ſoon as the parent hears the ſlighteſt noiſe, it daſhes into the ſtream, and the young one follows it immediately. The uſual method of taking them is by pitfalls. In ſome parts, the natives place boards full of ſharp irons, in the corn grounds, which theſe creatures ſtrike into their feet, and ſo become an eaſy prey.

The young ones are excellent food; and the negroes, who are not extremely nice in their diet, find an equal delicacy in the old. The teeth of this animal are harder than ivory, and not ſo liable to turn yellow; they are much uſed by the dentiſts to be made into falſe teeth. The ſkin, which, when dried, is of impenetrable hardneſs, is uſed to make bucklers.

This animal is the Behemoth mentioned in Job.

THE ELEPHANT.

THE elephant is the largeſt of land animals, and is not leſs remarkable for its docility and underſtanding than for its ſize. It has a long trunk, formed of multitude of rings, pliant in all directions, and terminated with a ſingle moveable hook, which anſwers the purpoſes of a hand to convey any thing into the mouth. The forehead of this animal is very high and riſing, the ears long, broad, and pendulous, the eyes extremely ſmall, the body round and full, the back riſing in an arch, and the whole animal ſhort in proportion to its height. The legs are thick, clumſy, and ſhapeleſs; the hide of a duſky colour, with a few ſcattered hairs, and full of ſcratches and ſcars, which it acquires in its paſſage through the thick woods and thorny places: the tail like that of a hog; the feet undivided, but the margins terminated by five round hoofs. In the upper jaw are two vaſt tuſks of ſix or ſeven feet long.

This animal commonly grows to the height of twelve feet. The female is leſs than the male, and the udder is between the fore legs.

The elephant is the ſtrongeſt, as well as the largeſt of all quadrupeds, and yet, in a ſtate of nature, it is neither fierce nor formidable; it is intelligent, tractable, and obedient to its maſter's will; ſenſible of benefits, and capable of reſenting injuries. It inhabits India, and ſome of its greater iſlands, Cochin China, and ſome of the provinces of China. They are alſo

Elephant

found in great plenty in the ſouthern parts of Africa: they ſwim well, delight in marſhy places, wallow in the mire like a hog, and feed on the leaves and branches of trees; and if they get into an incloſure, they deſtroy all the labours of the huſbandman in a very ſhort time. Indeed there is no repelling their invaſions, ſince it would require a ſmall army to attack the whole drove when united, and an attempt to moleſt them at that time would certainly be fatal. They advance towards the offender, ſtrike him with their tuſks, ſeize him with their trunks, toſs him in the air, and afterwards trample him to pieces under their feet. They are, however, very mild and harmleſs, except they are offended, or during the ſeaſon of heat, when they are ſeized with a kind of temporary madneſs.

In their natural ſtate, they are chiefly found along the ſides of rivers: they cannot live at a diſtance from the water; and they always diſturb it before they drink.

The elephant is remarkable for the excellence of its hearing: it appears delighted with muſic, learns to beat time, to move in meaſure, and even to accompany the ſound of the trumpet, or other inſtruments, with its voice. Its ſenſe of ſmelling is alſo exquiſite; but, in the ſenſe of touching, it exceeds all others of the brute creation, and perhaps even man himſelf. The organ of this ſenſe lies wholly in the trunk: this inſtrument is both an organ of touching and of ſuction; it not only pro-

vides for the animal's neceſſities and comforts, but alſo ſerves for its ornament and defence.

When once tamed, the elephant becomes the moſt courteous and obedient of all animals. It preſently conceives an attachment for the perſon who attends him, careſſes him, and even endeavours to anticipate his wiſhes. It quickly comprehends the ſigns made to it, and even the different ſounds of the voice: all its actions ſeem to partake of its magnitude, being grave, majeſtic, and ſerious. It is readily taught to kneel down to receive its rider; and thoſe whom he knows he careſſes with his trunk, and with the ſame inſtrument ſalutes thoſe which it is ordered to diſtinguiſh. It ſuffers itſelf to be harneſſed, and appears to be delighted with the finery of its trappings. It draws either chariots, cannon, ſhipping, or ſmall towers with numbers of people in them, with ſurpriſing ſtrength and perſeverance; and, notwithſtanding its bulk, it is extremely ſwift.

The elephant often ſleeps ſtanding; but that they are incapable of lying down is a vulgar error. They go one year with young, and bring forth one at a time; they are thirty years before they arrive at their full growth, and will live about one hundred and twenty, or one hundred and thirty years. They are much more numerous in Africa than in Aſia. The uſual method of taking them is in pitfalls, covered with branches of trees: ſometimes they are hunted and killed with lances; a ſlight wound in the head behind the ear deſtroying them

them in a moment. Their fleſh is eaten by the natives, and the trunk is ſaid to be a delicious morſel. The ſkin is very thick, and, when dreſſed, proof againſt a muſket ball. The bones are uſed in medicine.

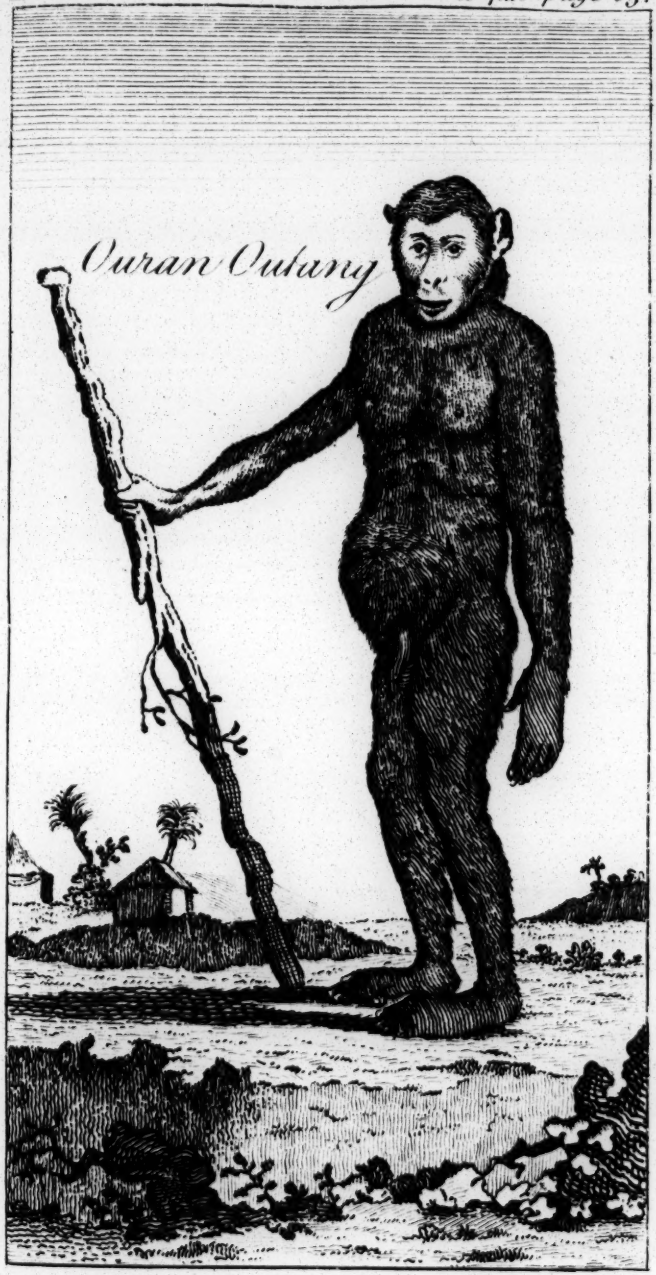
This animal has a very quick ſenſe of glory. An elephant was directed to force a large veſſel into the water, and, the taſk proving ſuperior to his ſtrength, the maſter, in a ſarcaſtic tone, ordered the keeper to take away that lazy beaſt and bring another. The poor animal was ſo affected at the reflection, that it inſtantly repeated its efforts, fractured its ſkull, and died on the ſpot.

At the Cape of Good Hope, where it is cuſtomary to kill theſe animals in the chace for the ſake of their teeth, three brothers, who were Dutchmen, made a large fortune by that buſineſs, and determined to retire to Europe to enjoy the fruits of their labours; but, before their return, they reſolved to have a laſt chace by way of amuſement. After finding their game, and beginning the attack in the uſual manner, one of their horſes threw its rider, the enraged animal inſtantly ſeized the unhappy man with his trunk, toſſed him up into the air, and received him on one of its tuſks, then turning towards the other two, ſeemingly with an aſpect of revenge, held out to them the impaled wretch writhing on the bloody tooth.

Of ANIMALS of the MONKEY KIND.

ANIMALS of the ape or monkey claſs have hands inſtead of paws; their ears, eye-lids, lips, and breaſts, reſemble thoſe of the human race, and their internal conformation bears ſome diſtant likeneſs. They have alſo fingers and nails on their hands like thoſe of a man, but more rough and unpoliſhed; their feet are like larger hands, and are divided into fingers or toes, of which that in the middle is the longeſt.

They are lively, agile, and full of frolic, chatter, and grimace; from the ſtructure of their body, they have many actions in common with the human kind. They are, in general, fierce and untameable; but ſome are of a milder nature, and will ſhew ſome degree of attachment; but they are naturally miſchievous, filthy, and much given to thieving. They inhabit woods, and live in trees; they feed on fruits, leaves, and inſects. They will leap from tree to tree with great activity, even when loaded with their young, which cling to them. They go in general in vaſt companies; but the different ſpecies never mix with each other, always keeping apart in different quarters. They are the prey of leopards, and others of the cat race; they are alſo the prey of ſerpents, which purſue them to the ſummit of the trees, and ſwallow them entire. Though they are not carnivorous, they will (purely for the ſake of miſchief) rob the neſts of birds of the eggs and young.


Ouran Outang

THE OURANG OUTANG, OR WILD MAN OF THE WOODS.

THE ourang outang, which, of all other animals, moſt nearly approaches to the human race, is found from three to ſeven feet high.

One of theſe creatures, brought from Angola in Africa, is thus deſcribed by Dr. Tyſon:

The body was covered with black hair, greatly reſembling human hair; and in thoſe places where it is longeſt on the human ſpecies, it was alſo longeſt on this. The face reſembled the human face, but the forehead was larger, and the head round; the jaws were not ſo prominent as in monkeys, but flat like thoſe of a man; the ears were alſo like thoſe of a man; and the teeth had more reſemblance to the human than thoſe of any other creature; and, in ſhort, the whole animal, at firſt view, preſented a human figure. This animal was a gentle, fond, and harmleſs creature. In its paſſage to England, thoſe who knew it on board the ſhip were highly entertained with it, for it would embrace them with the utmoſt tenderneſs, opening their boſoms, and claſping its hands about them; and, though there were monkeys aboard, it would never aſſociate with them, and ſeemed to conſider itſelf a creature of higher extraction. After it had been a little uſed to wear clothes, it grew fond of them, and would endeavour to put them on himſelf, taking ſuch parts of his dreſs as he could not properly manage to ſome of the company to aſſiſt him in

dreſſing. It would get into bed, place its head on the pillow, and cover itſelf with the clothes, like any human creature.

Theſe animals, when taken young, are capable of being tamed, and are taught to carry water, pound rice, and turn a ſpit. There was one ſhewn in London in 1738, which was extremely mild, affectionate, and good-natured, and remarkably fond of the people it was uſed to; it would eat and lay down in bed like a human creature, fetch a chair to ſit on, drink tea, which, if he found too hot, he would put into a ſaucer to cool: it would cry like a child, and be very unhappy at the abſence of its keeper. This was a young one, and only two feet four inches high.

The ourang outang inhabits the interior parts of Africa, the iſland of Sumatra, Borneo, and Java. They are ſolitary, and prefer the moſt deſert places, and live entirely on fruits and nuts. The large ones have prodigious ſtrength, and will overpower the ſtrongeſt man. Only the young can be taken alive, for the old ones are ſhot with arrows: they will attack, and even kill, the negroes who wander in the woods; they will drive away the elephants, and beat them with their fiſts and pieces of wood; and will throw ſtones at people that offend them. They have great agility and ſwiftneſs, and ſometimes carry away the young negroes.

Pigmy Ape
Magot

long armd Ape

THE PIGMY APE.

THIS animal has a flattiſh face, and ears like thoſe of a man. The body is about the ſize of a cat; the colour of the hair an olive brown, and yellowiſh beneath. It feeds on fruits and inſects, and is particularly fond of ants, is very tractable, and of a gentle diſpoſition.

THE LONG-ARMED APE.

THE long-armed ape, called by Mr. Buffon the gibbon, is a very extraordinary and remarkable creature. It has a flat ſwarthy face, ſurrounded with grey hair; and the hair on the body is black and rough; it walks erect, and is without a tail; its eyes are large, and ſunk in its head; and it is of different ſizes, from two to four feet high; the nails on the hands are flat, and thoſe on the toes long. It differs from all others of the monkey tribe by the extraordinary length of its arms, which are long enough to reach the ground when the animal ſtands erect. It is an inhabitant of the Eaſt Indies, and is a mild and gentle animal.

THE MAGOT, OR BARBARY APE.

THIS animal, like the former, is without a tail, though there is a ſmall protuberance on that part; it has a large callous red rump; the

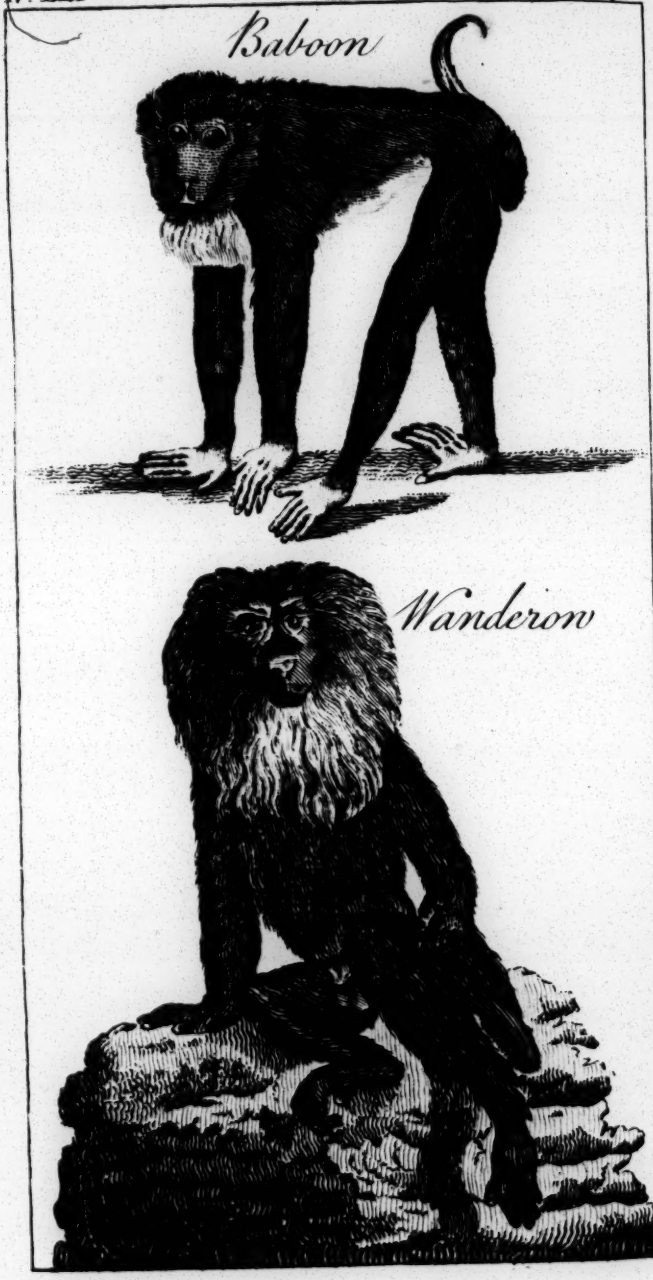
the face is prominent, and not ſo much like that of man as of quadrupeds; the body is covered with a dirty greeniſh brown hair, and the belly with a dull pale yellow; it has flat nails, ears like human ears, and bare buttocks; it is about three feet and a half high, and is a native of moſt parts of Africa and the Eaſt. It is a very fierce and miſchievous animal. In the open fields in India they aſſemble in great troops, and frequently attack women who are going to market, and take their proviſions from them.

THE TUFTED APE.

THE head of this animal is about fourteen inches in length; the face blue, and naked, and the noſe of a deep red; the eyebrows are black, and the ears like human ears; it has a long upright tuft of hair on the top of the head, and another under the chin; and two long tuſks in the upper jaw; its fore feet reſemble human hands, and the nails on the fingers are flat: the fore part of the body, and the inſide of the legs and arms are naked; the outſide is covered with mottled brown and olive-coloured hair; that on the back is duſky; the buttocks are red and bare; and the length of the animal from the noſe to the rump is about three feet three inches: it has a moſt diſguſting appearance, and is very fierce and ſalacious. It uſually goes on all-fours, but will ſometimes ſit on its rump, and ſupport itſelf with a ſtick. It will hold a cup in its hand in the attitude repreſented in the annexed

Tufted Ape

Simia Porcaria


Baboon
Wanderoo

annexed plate, and drink out of it. This animal feeds principally on fruits.

THE SIMIA PORCARIA.

IN the Britiſh Muſeum there is a drawing of this animal, with a noſe exactly reſembling that of a hog; but there is no account attending the painting to enable us to trace its hiſtory.

THE BABOON.

THE baboon, properly ſo called, is about three feet and a half high, with a thick body and limbs, and long canine teeth. It has large calloſities behind, which are quite naked and red; its tail, which is about ſeven inches long, is thick and crooked; its face is long and thick, and it has a pouch on each ſide of its cheeks, where it depoſits the remainder of its proviſions after it is ſatiated with eating; the hair with which it is covered is of a reddiſh brown. It ſometimes walks erect, but generally upon all-fours; and, inſtead of broad round nails like the ape, its hands and feet are armed with long ſharp claws. In Siam large troops of baboons frequently ſally forth from their foreſts, and attack a village when they know the men are engaged in their rice harveſt.

Though equally miſchievous, they are leſs formidable at the Cape of Good Hope. Whatever they undertake they perform with ſurpriſing

ſing ſkill and regularity. When they rob an orchard or a vineyard, they go in large companies, and previouſly concert a regular plan for the conducting of their buſineſs. On theſe occaſions, ſome of them enter the incloſure, while others are ſet to watch; the reſt form a line without the fence, reaching from their fellows within to their rendezvous without, which is generally in ſome craggy mountain. Every thing being thus diſpoſed, the plunderers within the orchard throw the fruit to thoſe that are without as faſt as they can gather it, and it is pitched from one to another all along the line, until it is ſafely depoſited at their head quarters. They are extremely dexterous in catching; and while the buſineſs is performed, a profound ſilence is obſerved among them. Their centinel continues upon the watch the whole time; and, if he perceives any perſon coming, inſtantly ſets up a loud cry, at which the whole company ſcamper off; but, even under theſe circumſtances, they are unwilling to leave the place empty-handed, but carry off ſome of their plunder in their mouths, ſome in their hands, and ſome under their arms. If they are cloſely purſued, they firſt drop that which is under their arms, then that from their hands, and afterwards that from their mouths.

Baboons feed principally upon fruits, roots, and corn, and uſually keep together in large companies.

THE WANDEROW.

THE wanderow has a tail from ſeven to eight inches long; the muzzle is prominent, as in the reſt of this kind; but it is remarkable for having a large long white head of hair, and a monſtrous white beard, coarſe, rough, and deſcending; the reſt of the body is brown or black. In its ſavage ſtate it is very fierce; but, with proper management, is more tractable than moſt of its kind.

THE MONKEY.

MONKEYS are ſmall in ſtature, and have long tails, by which they are diſtinguiſhed from the apes and baboons that entirely want the tail, or are large, and have but a ſhort one.

The monkey being leſs than the baboon, is endued with leſs power of doing miſchief; they are more eaſily tamed, and ſooner taught to imitate man than the former. They are not ſo grave and ſullen as the ape, and are more gentle than the baboon; they begin early to exert all their ſportive mimickries, and are obedient to correction.

The monkies may be conſidered as the maſters of every foreſt where they reſide. Neither the lion nor the tiger will venture to diſpute the dominion with them, ſince they carry on an offenſive war from the tops of trees, and, by their agility, eſcape all poſſibility of purſuit.

ſuit. They have a peculiar inſtinct in diſcovering their foes, and, when attacked, are very adroit in defending and aſſiſting each other.

The uſual method of taking theſe animals alive, is to ſhoot the female as ſhe carries her young; and the ſportſman always takes aim at the head, which if he hits, the monkey falls immediately to the ground, and the young one conſequently comes down at the ſame time, clinging to its dead parent. The negroes on the coaſt of Guinea are happy to ſee their numbers deſtroyed upon a double account; for they dread their devaſtations, and are fond of their fleſh.

The manner of plundering among the monkeys is much like that of the baboons in a garden, as already mentioned.

They feed upon fruits, the buds of trees, or ſucculent roots and plants, and are fond of the juice of the palm tree and the ſugar cane. If near the coaſts, they ſometimes deſcend to the ſea ſhore, where they eat lobſters, crabs, and other ſhell fiſh. Their manner of managing oyſters, though extraordinary, is well atteſted; they pick up a ſtone and place it between the opening ſhells, which prevents them from cloſing, and they eat the fiſh at their eaſe. They are equally ſubtle in taking crabs: they put their tail to the hole where that animal takes refuge, and the crab faſtening upon it, they withdraw with a jerk, and thus pull their prey upon ſhore.

The monkey ſeldom brings forth more than one at a time, though ſometimes it produces two.

In

Lion tailed Monkey
dog faced Monkey

In a ſtate of domeſtic tameneſs theſe animals are very entertaining. Father Carli, in his Hiſtory of Angola, informs us, that when he went into that horrid country to convert the ſavage natives to Chriſtianity, where he met with nothing but diſtreſs, diſeaſe, and diſappointment, he found more faithful ſervices from the monkies than the men; theſe he had taught to attend him, to guard him when he was ſleeping againſt the thieves and rats, to comb his head, and to fetch his water; and he aſſerts, that they were more tractable than the human inhabitants of the place. The ſavages of thoſe torrid tracts ſuppoſe monkies to be men, capable of ſpeech and converſation, but obſtinately dumb, for fear of being compelled to labour.

THE DOG-FACED MONKEY.

THIS animal has a long thick noſe, covered with a ſmooth red ſkin; the nails on the fore feet are flat, and thoſe on the hind feet like a dog's. Theſe creatures inhabit the hotteſt parts of Africa and Aſia; and, both in their manners and appearance, are very deteſtable animals.

The LION-TAILED MONKEY.

THE face of this monkey is long, and reſembling that of a dog; it is alſo naked, and of a duſky colour. This creature has a full white

beard, and large canine teeth; its body is covered with black hair, except on the belly, where it is of a light colour. Its nails are flat, and the tail is terminated with a tuft of hair, like that of the lion. It is a native of the Eaſt Indies, and the hotter parts of Africa.

THE CHINESE MONKEY.

THIS monkey has a long ſmooth noſe, of a whitiſh colour; the hair on the crown of the head is long and flat, and parted like that of a man; the colour is a pale brown. It is a native of Ceylon.

THE TAWNY MONKEY.

THE face of this animal is a little protuberant, and that and the ears are fleſh-coloured; it has a flattiſh noſe, and long canine teeth in the lower jaw; the hair on the upper part of the body is pale and tawny, but aſh-coloured at the roots; the hinder part of the back is orange-coloured, and the belly white. It is about the ſize of a cat, and its tail is ſhorter than its body. It is a native of India, and is very ill-natured.

THE WARINE.

THE warine, or the Braſilian guariba, is as large as a fox, with long black hair, and a long

to face page 74.

tail, always twiſted at the end. It has black ſhining eyes, ſhort round ears, and a round beard under the chin and throat. It inhabits the woods of Braſil and Guiana, and is the largeſt of the monkey kind to be found in America. It is remarkable for the loudneſs of its voice, which is more diſagreeable and tremendous than can be imagined. Theſe monkies are very fiery, fierce, miſchievous, and untameable.

THE COAITI, OR FOUR-FINGERED MONKEY.

THIS monkey may be diſtinguiſhed from the reſt, by having no thumb, and conſequently but four fingers on each of the two fore paws. It is about eighteen inches long, has five toes on the feet, flat nails, a ſlender body, and a long tail. It inhabits the neighbourhood of Carthagena, Braſil, and Peru. In order to paſs from top to top of lofty trees, whoſe branches are too diſtant for a leap, they will form a chain, by hanging down linked to each other by their tails, and ſwinging in that manner till the loweſt catches hold of a bough of the next tree, and draws up the reſt. They are ſometimes brought into Europe, but they are too tender to live long in our climate.

THE SAI, OR WEEPER.

THIS animal is called the weeper, from its peculiar manner of lamenting when it is either

threatened or beaten. It is very much deformed, has a round flattiſh face, and is of a reddiſh brown colour. The hair on the head and the upper part of the body is black tinged with brown, beneath, and on the limbs, tinged with red; the tail, which is black, is much longer than the head and body; the hair is very long, and thinly diſperſed. It is a native of Surinam and Braſil.

THE MAUCAUCO.

THIS is a beautiful animal, about the ſize of a common cat; but the body and limbs are ſlenderer, and of a longer make. It has a tail double the length of its body, covered with fur, and alternately marked with broad rings of black and white. But what is principally remarked, is the largeneſs of its eyes, which are ſurrounded with a broad black ſpace. The end of its noſe is black, the face white, and the ears erect; the head is covered with dark aſh-coloured hair; the back and ſides with a red aſh colour; and all the hair is ſoft, gloſſy, and delicate, ſmooth to the touch, and erect like the pile of velvet. When it ſleeps, it brings its noſe to its belly, and its tail over its head. Its hinder legs are much longer than thoſe before. It is a native of Madagaſcar and the neighbouring iſlands. It is a gentle animal, and though it reſembles the monkey in many reſpects, it has neither its malice nor its miſchief. Like the monkey, however, it ſeems to be perpetually in motion, and moves, like all four-handed animals,

animals, in an oblique direction. Theſe animals are very cleanly, their cry is weak, and, when young, they are very eaſily tamed. In a wild ſtate they go in troops of about thirty or forty.

THE MONGOOZ.

THE mongooz, or woolly maucauco, is alſo a native of Madagaſcar. It is ſmaller than the former, and has a ſoft gloſſy thick fur, a little curled or waved, of a deep browniſh aſh colour. The eyes are black, with orange-coloured circles round the pupil; and the tail, which is of one uniform colour, is very long. The breaſt and belly are white, and the hands and feet duſky and naked. All the nails are flat, except that on the inner toe of the hind feet. Theſe animals are about the ſize of a cat, and are of various colours. They ſleep on trees, live on fruits, are very ſportive, good-natured, and delicate. Their actions ſomewhat reſemble thoſe of a monkey.

THE LORI.

The lori, or tail-leſs maucauco is remarkable for the ſingularity of its figure. In proportion to its ſize, it is the longeſt of all other animals, having nine vertebræ in the loins, and other quadrupeds have only ſeven. It has no tail, which makes the body appear ſtill longer. It is a tame, harmleſs, little animal, and is about

the ſize of a ſquirrel. It is a native of Ceylon and Bengal, where it lives in the woods, and feeds on fruits.

THE FLYING MAUCAUCO.

IT has a long head, a ſmall mouth and teeth, and ſmall round ears. From the neck to the hands, and from the hands to the hinder feet, extends a broad ſkin, like that of a flying ſquirrel; the ſame ſkin is alſo continued from the hinder feet to the extremity of the tail, which is included in it. The body and the outſide of this ſkin is covered with ſoft hair, hoary, or black and aſh colour. The legs are cloathed with ſoft yellow down. It has five toes on each foot, and the claws are ſlender, ſharp, and crooked, which enable it to adhere ſtrongly to whatever it faſtens on. This animal is about three feet long, and its tail, which is very ſlender, is about a ſpan long. It is a native of the Molucca iſles and Philippines, and feeds on fruits.

ANIMALS OF THE DOG KIND.

THE dog is the moſt intelligent of all known quadrupeds, and, excluſive of the beauty of his form, his ſwiftneſs, and his vivacity, poſſeſſes all thoſe internal qualifications that can endear him

him to man. With a kind of affectionate humility, he crouches before his maſter, and is happy to offer his ſtrength, his courage, and all his uſeful talents, for his ſervice. He waits his orders, and implicitly obeys them: he conſults his looks, and perfectly underſtands them. He is friendly, without intereſt, grateful for the ſlighteſt favours, and ſooner forgets injuries than benefits. His only aim is to be ſerviceable; his only terror to diſpleaſe. He licks the hand juſt raiſed to ſtrike him, and diſarms reſentment by ſubmiſſion. Ever aſſiduous in ſerving his maſter, he is alſo a friend to his friends, and indifferent to all the reſt.

The dog is of great importance to us; when at night the guard of the houſe is committed to his care, he ſeems proud of the charge; he continues a watchful centinel, goes his rounds, ſcents ſtrangers at a diſtance, and warns them of his being upon duty. He is the only animal whoſe fidelity is unſhaken; almoſt the only one who knows his name, and anſwers to the domeſtic call; the only one that, when he miſſes his maſter, expreſſes his loſs by his complaints; and almoſt the only one who can readily find his way home, after he has been carried to a diſtant place.

A dog has the moſt exquiſite noſe of any animal, for he will diſtinguiſh his maſter by the ſmell among ten thouſand people; and by this means he can purſue his footſteps, though it be a conſiderable time after he has paſſed. The nearer a dog approaches the game, the louder he barks, with intent perhaps to terrify the

the animal purſued, and make it ſlacken its pace.

In ſome parts of Siberia, they make uſe of dogs as they do of horſes, and train them up to draw carriages from one inn to another.

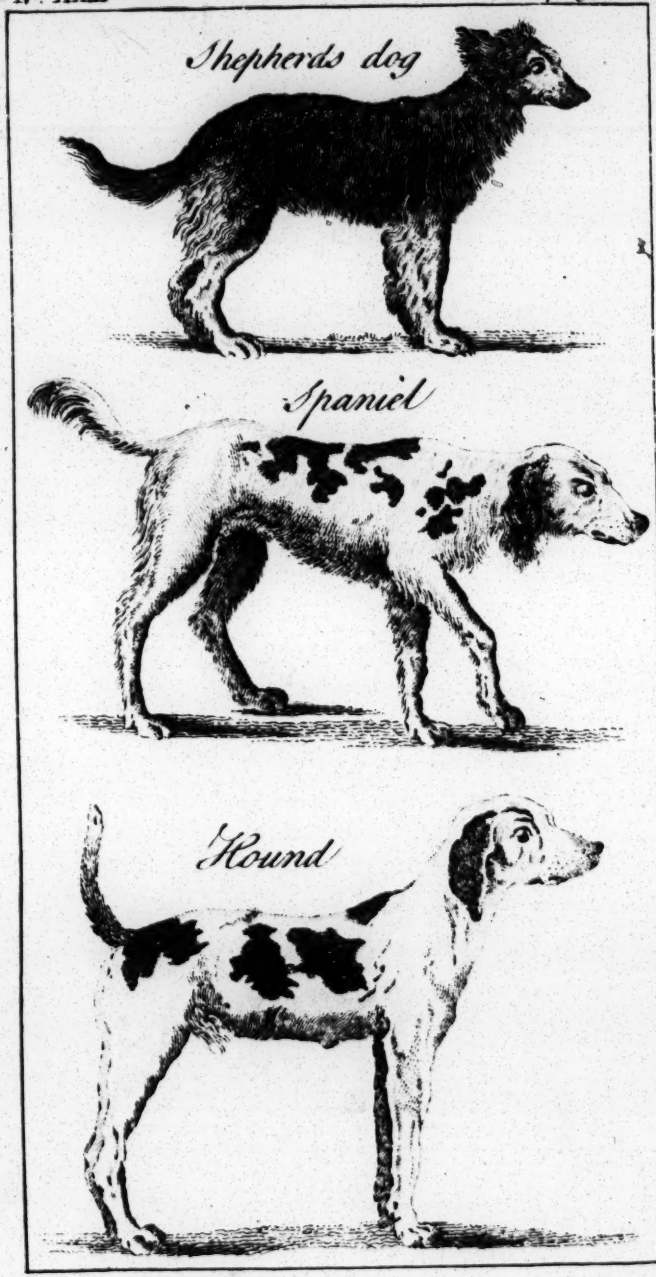
When his maſter is attacked, the dog will defend him to the utmoſt of his power; and when his maſter dies, he ſeems to lament his loſs; and ſome have been known to pine away, and die with grief upon theſe occaſions.

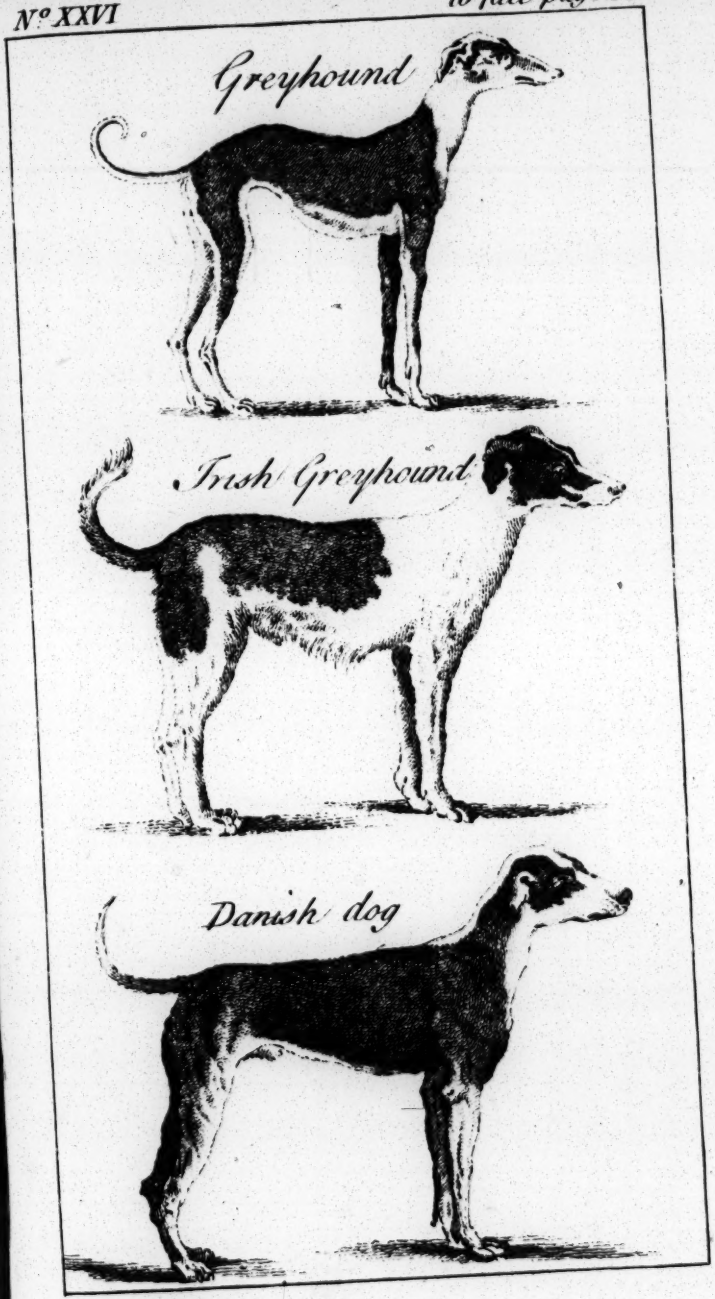
THE SHEPHERD'S DOG.

THE ſhepherd's dog, when tranſported into to the temperate climates, and among civilized people, ſuch as England, France, and Germany, will be diveſted of his ſavage air, his pricked ears, his rough, long, and thick hair; and, merely from the influence of climate and food, become a matin, a maſtiff, or an hound.

THE HOUND.

THE hound is an animal well known for its uſe in hunting. There are three ſorts, though all produced by the ſame dam, viz. the hound, the harrier, and the beagle. The ears are long and pendulous, the noſe blunt, the mouth large, and their barking or opening loud and deep.


Shepherds dog
Spaniel
Hound


Greyhound
Irish Greyhound
Danish dog

The SPANIEL.

Theſe animals vary in ſize, from the ſetting dog to the ſpringing ſpaniels, and ſome of the little lap-dogs. This kingdom has long been remarkable for producing excellent dogs of this ſort, great care having been taken to preſerve the breed in the utmoſt purity.

The GREYHOUND.

THE greyhound is the ſwifteſt of all dogs, and purſues a hare by the ſight, and not by the ſmell. Its head and legs are long; and the body ſo exceeding ſlender, as to render it peculiarly adapted to running ſwiftly.

The IRISH GREYHOUND.

THIS animal, which is alſo called the great Iriſh wolf-dog, is very rare, even in the only country in the world where it is to be found. It is kept rather for ſhew than uſe, there being no longer any wolves in Ireland. This animal is extremely beautiful and majeſtic, and the largeſt of the dog kind to be ſeen in the world.

THE DANISH DOG.

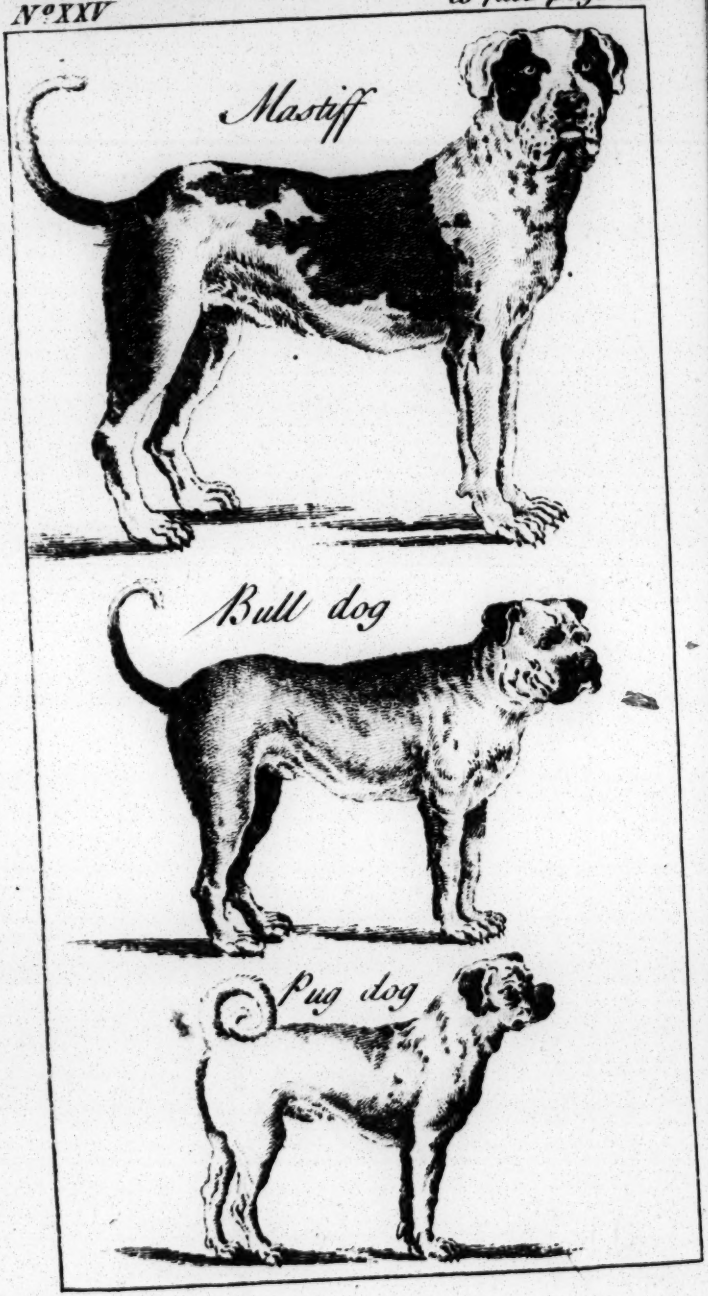
THIS is alſo a large dog, and is more ſlender than the maſtiff, which he reſembles, except that his head is ſlenderer and longer. The colour of theſe animals is generally of a yellowiſh brown, though ſome of them are grey, and others quite black. They carry their tails turned up, and have a large high forehead.

THE MASTIFF.

THE maſtiff is an animal of great ſize and ſtrength, and a very loud barker. The head is very large; the lips are alſo large, and hang down on each ſide. It has a fine noble countenance, and is uſually kept for guarding houſes, yards, and other places.

THE BULL-DOG.

THE noſe of this animal is ſhort, and the under jaw longer than the upper. It is a ſtrong, fierce, and cruel creature, and frequently bites before it barks. It is peculiar to England; and ſince the barbarous cuſtom of bull-baiting has declined, the breed is become more ſcarce. This animal has a large thick head, and carries its tail turned upwards.


Mastiff
Bull dog
Pug dog

THE PUG-DOG.

THE pug-dog, or Dutch maſtiff, is an innocent reſemblance of the bull-dog, but much ſmaller. He has a black muzzle, a flat noſe, and yellowiſh brown hair, with a tail turned up in a curl. The ears are uſually cut off from thoſe ſort of dogs, to render their heads rounder. Some of them have a black liſt along the back. It appears to be a uſeleſs animal, and to want that fidelity that this tribe generally poſſeſs. It is entirely domeſtic, and will never follow its maſter to any conſiderable diſtance.

THE TERRIER.

THE terrier is a ſmall rough kind of hound, made uſe of to hunt the fox or the badger out of their holes, or rather, by their barking, to give notice in what part of their kennel they reſide, when the ſportſmen intend to dig them out.

THE BLOOD-HOUND.

THE blood-hound was held in great eſteem by our anceſtors. Its buſineſs was to recover any game that had eſcaped wounded from the hunter, or had been killed and ſtolen out of the foreſt. But in thoſe days, when the country was leſs peopled than at preſent, it was more employed in hunting thieves and robbers by their

their footſteps. At this time, the country being every where peopled, this variety is entirely worn out.

THE LAP-DOG.

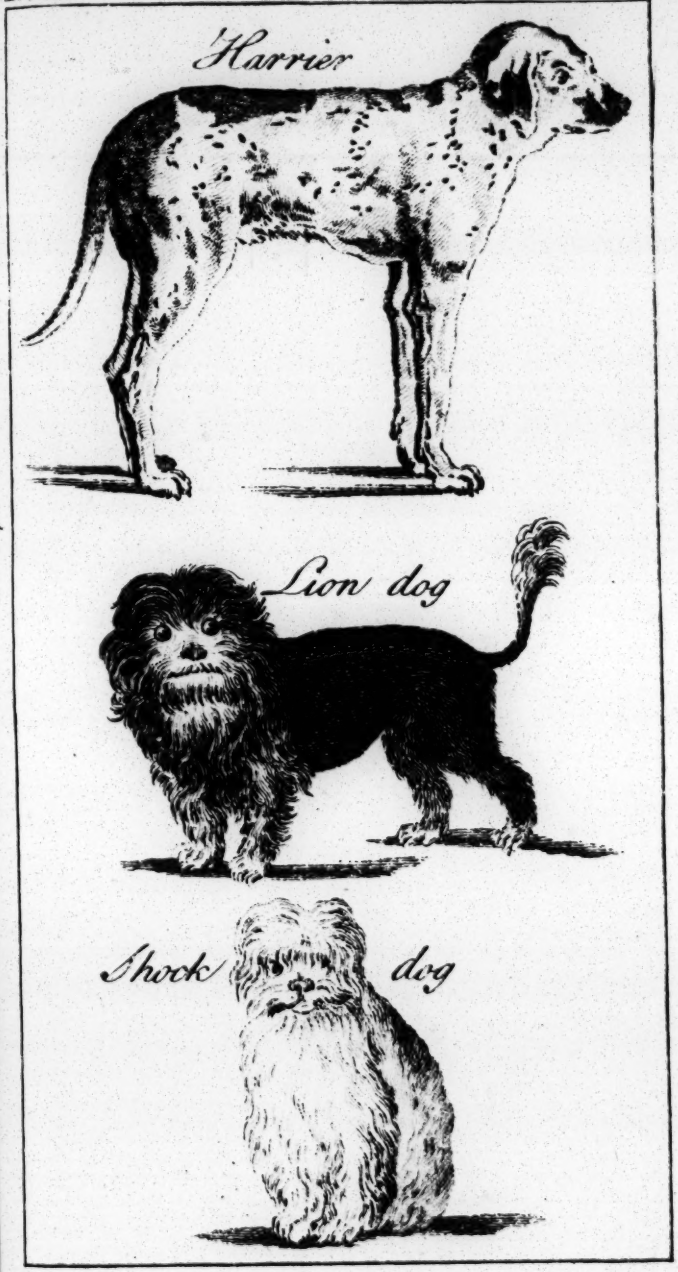
THE lap-dog is of various kinds and ſizes. Small ones from Bologna are generally preferred, but the more aukward and extraordinary they are, the more they are prized.

THE CUR-DOG.

THE cur-dog, which is alſo called the houſe-dog, is as large as a fox, with upright ears, and a kind of woolly hair beneath the tail. Theſe are generally mongrels, and conſequently the ſhapes and ſizes of them muſt be exceedingly different.

THE SHOCK-DOG.

THIS animal is remarkable for its long curled hair, of which it has ſuch large quantities, that ſome of the white ſort have the appearance of ſheep; but their ſhape is very different, and they have ſo large a quantity on the head, that they ſeem to be almoſt blinded with it.


Harrier
Lion dog
Shock dog

THE LION-DOG.

THE lion-dog reſembles in miniature the animal from whence it takes its name. The hair of the fore part is very long, and that of the hinder part extremely ſhort. The noſe is ſhort; the tail is long, and tufted at the point like that of a lion. But notwithſtanding it ſo much reſembles the lion, it is extremely feeble, timid, and inactive. It came originally from Malta, where it is ſo very ſmall, that women carry it about in their ſleeves.

When firſt whelped, the dog is not a completely finiſhed animal. In general their eyes are not opened till they are ten or twelve days old; but in leſs than a month the puppy begins to exerciſe all its ſenſes, and from thence makes haſty advances to its perfection.

When a dog has committed a theft, he ſlinks away with his tail between his legs. He can hardly ever be ſaid to ſweat; but, when hot, he foams, and hangs out his tongue. Before he lies down, he goes ſeveral times round the ſpot; and his ſleep is attended with a quick ſenſe of hearing: it is alſo certain that he frequently dreams.

Water appears to be more neceſſary to the dog than food; he drinks frequently, tho' not abundantly, and it is imagined he runs mad when abridged of water.

THE WOLF.

THE wolf has a long head, a pointed nose, ears ſharp and erect, a long buſhy tail, long legs, and longiſh hair. He has large teeth, and is taller than a large greyhound. His colour is generally a pale brown, tinged with yellow, though ſometimes found white, and, in Canada, ſometimes black.

The wolf ſo nearly reſembles the dog, both externally and internally, that he ſeems modelled upon the ſame plan. But his nature is ſo very different, that he only preſerves the ill qualities of the dog, without any of the good ones. Theſe two animals are indeed ſo different in their diſpoſitions, that they have a perfect antipathy to each other. They never meet without either flying or fighting. If the wolf is victorious, he devours his prey: the dog is more generous, and contents himſelf with his victory.

Wolves are cowardly, though cruel animals; they will fly the preſence of man, except they are preſſed by hunger, when they prowl by night in vaſt droves through villages, and deſtroy any perſons they meet. They have been ſeen following armies, and arriving in numbers upon the field of battle, where they devoured ſuch dead bodies as were ſtrewed upon the earth, or negligently interred.

When the ſhe wolves are near the time of bringing forth, they prepare a ſoft bed of moſs in ſome retired place, and uſually bring from

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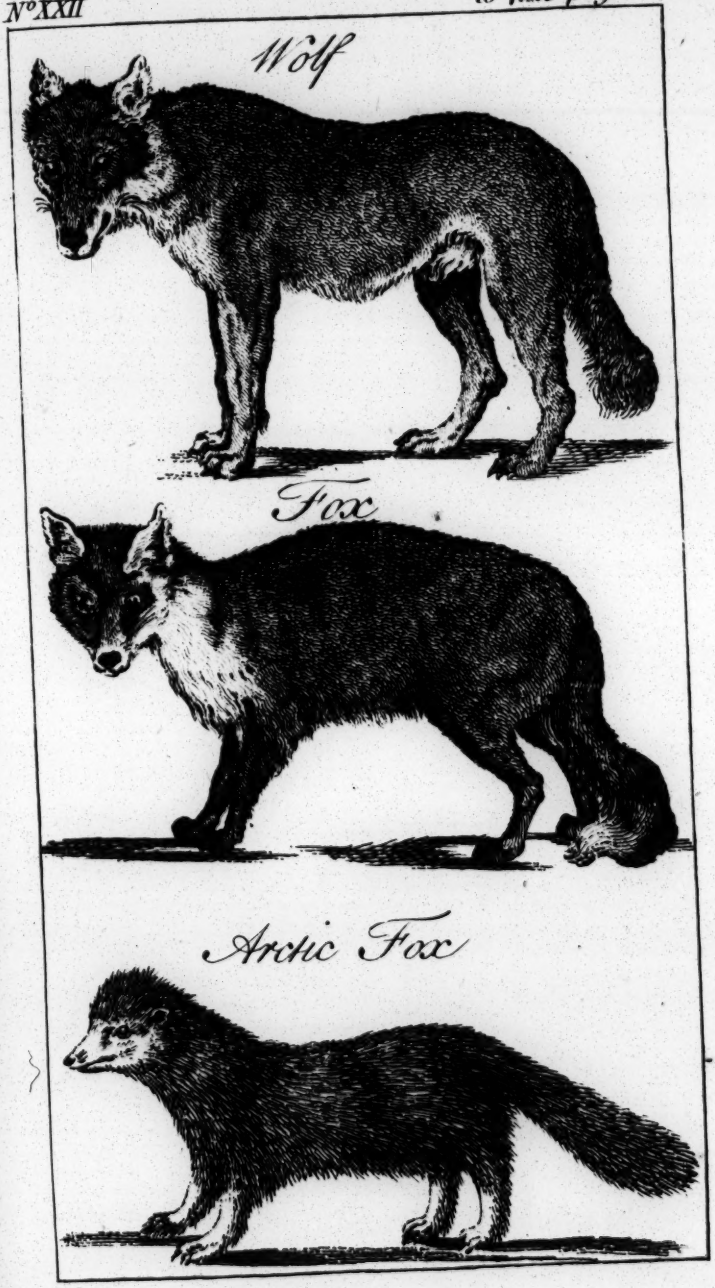
Wolf
Fox
Arctic Fox

ſive to nine at a litter, and the cubs, like thoſe of the bitch, are brought forth blind.

Of all animals, the wolf's appetite for animal food is one of the moſt vehement. When preſſed with hunger, he braves danger, and ventures to attack thoſe animals which are under the protection of man, ſuch as lambs, ſheep, or even dogs themſelves.

King Edgar is ſaid to be the firſt who endeavoured to rid this kingdom of ſuch diſagreeable inmates, by commuting the puniſhments for certain crimes into the acceptance of a number of wolves tongues from each offender. In Wales, he converted the tax of gold and ſilver into an annual tribute of three hundred wolves heads. Wolves were ſo plenty in Yorkſhire in the reign of Athelſtan, that a retreat was built at Flixton, in that county, to defend paſſengers from the wolves, that they ſhould not be devoured by them.

They infeſted Ireland many centuries after they were extirpated in England, for there are accounts of ſome being found there as late as the year 1710. The wolf is now an inhabitant of Europe, Aſia, Africa, and America, but not ſo high as the Arctic Circle. The vaſt foreſts on the European continent will always preſerve them.

Beſides being hunted with greyhounds and harriers, wolves are taken and deſtroyed by other means: they are ſecured in traps, by poiſoned carcaſes prepared and placed for that purpoſe, and caught in pit-falls. But notwithſtanding every art that is practiſed to de-

ſtroy them, wolves multiply amazingly in thoſe countries where the woods are plenty. France, Spain, and Italy, are greatly infeſted with them.

THE FOX.

THE fox reſembles the wolf and the dog internally, and is a crafty, lively animal. It breeds once a year, and generally brings forth four or five cubs, which, like puppies, are produced blind.

The fox is ſmaller and ſlenderer than the wolf; the former being about two feet three inches long, and the latter three feet and an half. The tail of the fox is longer in proportion, and more buſhy; its noſe ſmaller, and more nearly reſembles that of a greyhound, and its hair is ſofter. Like the wolf, its eyes are obliquely ſituated; its ears are directed in the ſame manner as thoſe of the wolf, and, in proportion to its ſize, its head is equally large.

The fox has ever been famous for his cunning and his arts; and he appears to merit the reputation he has gained. He generally keeps his kennel at the edge of a wood, and yet within an eaſy journey of ſome farm-houſe. From thence he liſtens to the crowing of the cock, and the cackling of the hen and chickens. He ſcents them at a diſtance; he ſeizes every opportunity, conceals his approaches, creeps ſlily along, attacks his prey, and

and ſeldom returns without his booty. When this animal obſerves any ſpringes for catching birds, and finds any fowls entangled in the ſnare, he very expertly takes them out. He will feed on fleſh of any kind, but his favourite food is lambs, rabbits, hares, poultry, and feathered game.

The chace of the fox is pleaſant and amuſing. For every part of this chace, the huntſmen have their cant terms. The firſt year the fox is called a cub, the ſecond a fox, and the third an old fox: his tail is called the bruſh or drag. He is generally purſued by a large kind of harrier or hound, aſſiſted by a ſmaller breed called terriers, that follow him into his kennel, and attack him there. As ſoon as he can be dug out, he is carried in a bag to ſome open country, and there ſet looſe before the hounds.

The ſmell of this animal is very ſtrong, eſpecially that of the urine, which is ſo offenſive even to itſelf, that it will take the trouble of digging a hole in the ground, and there, after depoſiting its water, cover it over with the earth. It is ſaid the fox makes uſe of its urine to force the cleanly badger from its habitation, that he may uſurp the poſſeſſion.

There are three varieties of foxes in this iſland, which differ in ſize, but not in form or colour. The greyhound fox is the largeſt, talleſt, and boldeſt, and will even attack a grown ſheep: the maſtiff-fox is leſs: the cur-fox is the leaſt, though the moſt pernicious of the three to the peaſant and the farmer.

In the colder countries round the Pole, foxes are found of all colours. The common fox, however, is more univerſally diffuſed than any of the former. It inhabits Europe; the cold and temperate parts of Aſia; Barbary, but not the hotter parts of Africa; it abounds in North America; and is alſo to be found in South America. They have the ſame cunning in all countries, and the ſame eagerneſs after prey. Their voice is a kind of yelp, and not a bark; and their bite is very hard and dangerous. Their colour, in general, is a kind of a tawny red, mixed with aſh-colour; but in this particular they greatly vary. The ſkins are frequently made into muffs, and are extremely warm and beautiful.

The beſt way of deſtroying this animal is with guns and traps, of which latter many curious inventions are deſcribed in Mortimer's Huſbandry, and other works on that ſubject.

THE JACKALL.

THE jackall is called the lion's provider, from an opinion that it rouſes the prey for that animal. The fact is, every creature in the foreſt is ſet in motion by the cries of the jackalls: the lion, and other beaſts of rapine, attend to the chace by a kind of inſtinct, and ſeize thoſe timid animals that betake themſelves to flight at the noiſe of this nightly pack. It is of the ſize of a common fox, and reſembles that animal in the hinder parts, particularly

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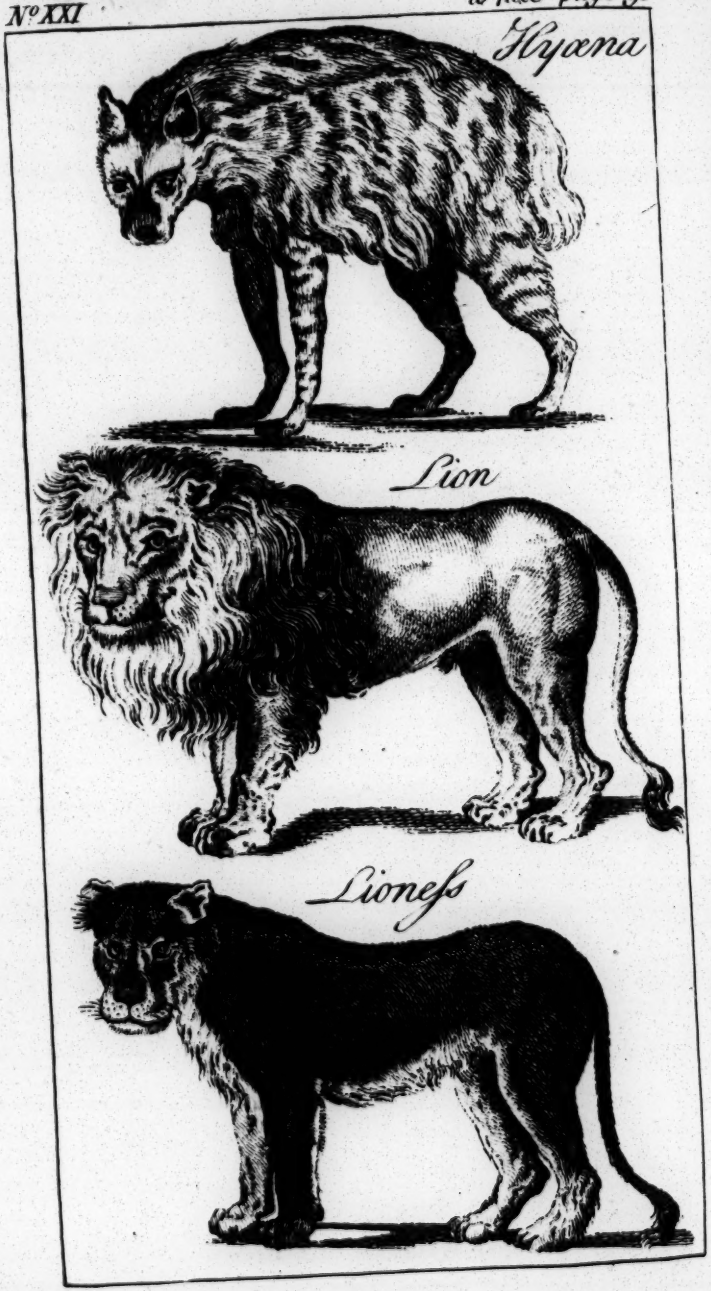


N. 5

larly the tail; and the wolf in the fore parts, eſpecially in the noſe. Its legs are ſhorter than thoſe of the fox, and its colour of a bright yellow. Its cry is between barking and howling, and is a lamentation reſembling that of human diſtreſs. It is an inhabitant of all the hot and temperate parts of Aſia, and is found in Barbary, and other parts of Africa, as low as the Cape of Good Hope. The jackall never goes alone, but always in packs of forty, fifty, or even two hundred together. When they cannot obtain living prey, they will feed on roots, fruits, and carrion. They alſo rake up the dead from their graves, and feed on the putrid corpſes; for which reaſon, in many countries, bodies are interred a great depth, and well ſecured againſt their attacks. They are conſtant attendants upon caravans, and armies, expecting that death will furniſh them a banquet. Their howling is loud and dreadful. In the day time they are ſilent, and retire to their dens: notwithſtanding their natural ferocity, they are ſometimes tamed, and kept among domeſtic animals.

THE HYÆNA.

THE hyæna is nearly of the ſize of a wolf, and reſembles that animal in the ſhape of its head and body: the head, however, is a little broader, and leſs pointed, and the ears are longer. The hair on the body is long, coarſe, and rough, and of an aſh-colour, marked

marked with long black ſtripes from the back downwards. Its tail is very full of hair; ſometimes plain, and ſometimes barred with black. It is more ſavage and more untameble than any other quadruped, and is continually in a ſtate of rage or rapacity; for ever growling, except when it is receiving its food: its eyes then gliſten, the briſtles on its back ſtand erect, and its teeth appear, which altogether give it a moſt dreadful aſpect; and the terror is heightened by its horrible howl, which, it is ſaid, is ſometimes miſtaken for that of a human voice in diſtreſs. It is an obſcure and ſolitary animal, and chiefly inhabits Aſiatic Turkey, Syria, Perſia, and Barbary. It reſides in the caverns of mountains, in the clifts of rocks, or in dens under ground, which it has formed for itſelf. This animal is ſo cruel, fierce, and malevolent, that, even when taken very young, it cannot be tamed: its voice is a hoarſe, diſagreeable mixture of growling and roaring.

ANIMALS OF THE CAT KIND.

THE claſs of the cat kind are principally diſtinguiſhed by their ſharp and formidable claws, which they can extend and conceal at pleaſure.

All animals of the cat kind, though differing in ſize or in colour, are equally fierce, artful,

ful, and rapacious. They are remarkable for the ſharpneſs and ſtrength of their claws, the roundneſs of their head, the ſhortneſs of their ſnout, and the large whiſkers which grow on the upper lip. They have thirty teeth, which are very formidable; but are not ſo well calculated for chewing their prey as for tearing it. They have not the ſwiftneſs of moſt other animals; but generally catch their prey by ſurpriſe, inſtead of hunting it fairly down.

THE CAT.

THIS animal has been taken under human protection, and is conſidered as a faithleſs friend, whoſe buſineſs it is to oppoſe an inſidious enemy. Though eaſily offended, it has not ſtrength ſufficient to do any conſiderable miſchief. There is nothing more playful than the kitten; but, in ſome degree, it loſes this diſpoſition as it grows old.

This animal is indeed an uſeful, but a deceitful domeſtic. It is active, neat, ſedate, delicate, and voluptuous: it delights in eaſe, and ſeeks the ſofteſt cuſhions to repoſe on. When pleaſed, it purrs and moves its tail; and, when angry, ſpits, hiſſes, and ſtrikes with its foot. Its eyes ſhine in the night; and its hair, when rubbed in the dark, emits fire. It is proverbially tenacious of life; and, if thrown or falling from any height, always lights on its feet.

The cat goes ſixty-ſix days with young, and uſually

uſually brings about five or ſix at a time, which are produced blind. They live to about the age of ten years.

All animals that are weaker than themſelves, are to them an object of deſtruction. Hares, rabbits, birds, rats and mice, bats, moles, toads, and frogs are all eagerly purſued, though the mouſe appears to be their favourite game, and nothing diſcovers the natural malignity of the cat ſo much, as the fondneſs for ſporting with theſe little captives before they kill them. The cat is much afraid of water, cold, and diſagreeable ſmells. It delights in being near the fire, or in the ſun; is exceſſively fond of ſome plants, ſuch as marum, cat-mint, valerian, &c. and, when it finds them growing in any garden, it will rub itſelf againſt them till it wears them out. It is alſo fond of rubbing againſt thoſe perſons who carry perfumes. It does not ſleep ſoundly, and frequently pretends to be aſleep, the better to deceive its prey.

THE WILD-CAT.

THE wild is much larger than the domeſtic cat; and its fur being longer, makes it appear larger than it really is. Its head is bigger, its face flatter, and its teeth and claws much more formidable. Its tail, which is of a moderate length, is very thick and flat, marked with alternate bars of black and white, the end always black: the general colour of theſe animals, in England, is a yellowiſh white, mixed with

with a deep grey; and the fur is very ſoft and fine. Theſe colours, upon cloſe inſpection, will be found to be diſpoſed like the ſtreaks on the ſkin of the tiger. The wild cat is found in our larger woods; and is the moſt deſtructive of the carnivorous kinds in this kingdom.

THE LION.

THIS animal has a large head, ſhort round ears, and a face covered with ſhort hair. On the upper part of the head, the whole neck and ſhoulders, and the chin, are long ſhaggy hairs like a mane. The hair on the body and limbs, is ſhort and ſmooth, and long at the bottom of the belly. It has very ſtrong limbs, and a long tail, with a tuft of long hair at the end. Its colour is tawny, but on the belly inclining to white. The length of the largeſt lion from the noſe to the tail is about eight feet; and the tail four feet. The lioneſs is leſs, and has no mane.

The lion is an inhabitant of all parts of Africa, and the hotter regions of Aſia, ſuch as India and Perſia; in Turkey, Perſia, and the Indies, however, their numbers are now diminiſhing daily. The arms of an Hottentot or a Negroe make them more than a match for this noble animal, and they are generally victorious when they attack him. When they have diſcovered the lion's retreat, they arm themſelves with ſpears headed with iron, and provoke him to the combat: four men are generally conſi-

dered

dered as ſufficient for ſuch an encounter. The firſt againſt whom the lion flies, receives him on his ſpear, which furniſhes the other with an opportunity of attacking him behind; the lion, finding himſelf wounded in the rear, turns that way, which gives the firſt man time to recover. Thus is he attacked on all ſides, till, at length, they diſable and diſpatch him.

Theſe animals, however, are brave only in proportion to the ſucceſs of their former encounters. In the vaſt deſerts of Africa, where man has not fixed his habitation, lions are very numerous, and preſerve their natural ſtrength; a ſingle lion of the deſert frequently attacks an entire caravan, and, when he finds himſelf over-powered, maintains an obſtinate combat, and faces the enemy till he dies: on the contrary, thoſe lions which inhabit the peopled countries of Morocco and India, having experienced man's ſuperiority, have ſo far loſt their courage, as to be ſcared away with a ſhout; and only venture to attack the timid and unreſiſting flocks and herds, which women and children are ſufficient to protect.

From this alteration in the lion's diſpoſition, it ſeems probable that the lion might be tamed. The keepers of wild beaſts often play with this animal, pull out his tongue, and even chaſtiſe him without a cauſe; which he uſually permits with the utmoſt compoſure; but, if his anger ſhould happen to be excited, the conſequences are terrible. We are informed, by Labat, that a gentleman kept a lion in his chamber, and employed a ſervant to attend it,

who,

who, as is usual, sometimes caressed, and sometimes chastised it: this gentleman was one morning awakened by a noise in his room, which he could not immediately discover the cause of; but, drawing the curtains, he perceived the lion growling over the man's head, which he had separated from the body, and tossing it round the floor with his paws. He therefore caused the animal to be immediately secured.

As the passions of the lion are strong, and his appetites vehement, it is not extraordinary that his natural ferocity should return; but he seldom exerts it against his benefactors. It appears, indeed, from numberless accounts, that his anger is noble, his courage magnanimous, and his disposition grateful. His courage is tempered with mercy, and he has been known to spare the weaker animals, as if they were beneath his attention.

A singular instance, in proof of this remark, occurred in the Tower a few years ago; where, by the inhumanity of some persons who were admitted to see the wild beasts preserved there, a little dog was thrown into the den of one of the lions, apparently for no other purpose than to gratify an idle and wicked curiosity, in beholding the destruction of the animal. In this, however, they were disappointed; for the noble savage conceived an affection for the dog, continued to live in habits of perfect cordiality with it, permitting it to share its subsistence, and at the death of the latter was for some weeks inconsolable.

A ſecond attachment of this kind afterwards took place in the Tower. Within theſe five years a dog was permitted to inhabit one of the dens, in the moſt perfect friendſhip with the lion.

The eyes of a lion are always bright and fiery, and they preſerve this look of terror even in death. The ſtructure of the paws, teeth, eyes, and tongue, are perfectly the ſame as in a cat, and theſe two animals ſo nearly reſemble each other in the internal parts, that there is hardly any diſtinction but in their ſize.

When hungry, the lion attacks any animal that comes in his way; but, as he is a formidable enemy, and therefore carefully avoided, he is ſometimes obliged to hide, in order to take them by ſurpriſe; and when his prey comes within a proper diſtance, he ſprings at it, and frequently ſeizes it at the firſt bound. His teeth are ſo very ſtrong, that he finds no difficulty in breaking the bones of an animal, and he ſwallows them with the fleſh. He laps like a cat, and drinks frequently, but ſlowly. He requires about fifteen pounds of raw fleſh in a day, and prefers that of live animals, or of thoſe which are juſt killed: ſeldom chooſing to touch the bodies of any creature, when they begin to putrefy.

The roaring of the lion, when heard in the night, and re-echoed by the mountains, reſembles diſtant thunder. This roar is his natural note; his cry of anger being a different growl, which is ſhort, broken, and reiterated, much louder,

louder, and more formidable. He then laſhes his ſides with his long tail, and his mane ſeems to ſtand like briſtles round his head; the muſcles of his face are greatly agitated, and his huge eyebrows cover a great part of his glaring eyeballs; he diſcovers his teeth and tongue, and extends his formidable claws. Thus prepared for the war, few of the natives of the foreſt will venture to engage him.

The young lion always lives in the foreſt, at a great diſtance from any human habitation, where he remains while he is able to live by his natural induſtry; but when he becomes old, and leſs capable of hunting the ſavage inhabitants in thoſe retreats, he ventures into places more frequented; attacks the flocks and herds near the habitation of the ſhepherd or the huſbandman, and depends for ſupport rather on his courage than his activity and addreſs. In theſe deſperate ſallies, however, he never attacks men, if quadrupeds are to be found, unleſs they provoke him to engage.

The lioneſs goes five months with young, and never produces more than two cubs at a time.

As to the length of a lion's life, it is highly probable that, in his native foreſts, his age is equal at leaſt to that of man. Pompey, the great lion which died in the year 1760, was known to have been above ſeventy years in the Tower; and another lately died there aged ſixty-three years and upwards, which was brought from the river Gambia.

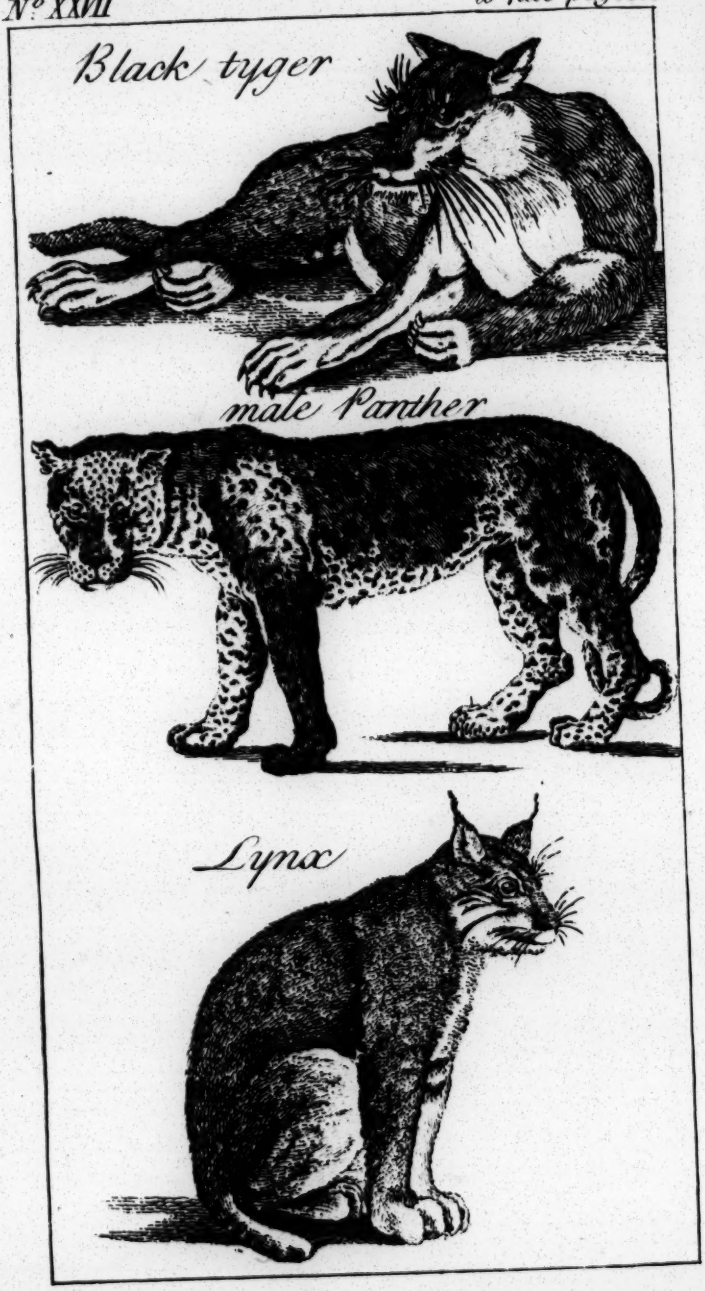
Dr. Shaw informs us, that the fleſh of the lion is often eaten in Barbary, and that it reſembles veal in taſte.

THE TIGER.

NO quadruped can be more beautiful than this animal; the gloſſy ſmoothneſs of his hair, the extreme blackneſs on the ſtreaks with which he is marked, on a ground of a bright yellow colour, agreeably ſtrike the beholder. The elegance of his form is equal to the beauty of his colouring. He is larger than the leopard, though ſlenderer and more delicate. The tiger is peculiar to Aſia, and is found as far north as China and Chineſe Tartary; but the greateſt numbers, the largeſt, and the moſt cruel, are met with in India, and its iſlands. The principal diſtinction of the tiger, and in which it differs from other mottled beaſts, is in the form of its colours, which run in ſtreaks in the ſame direction as the ribs, from the back down to the belly. On the leopard, the panther, and the ounce, the colours are broken in ſpots all over the body; but in the tiger they extend lengthwiſe, and hardly a round ſpot is to be found on its ſkin.

Of all animals the tiger moſt reſembles the cat in ſhape, which, if obſerved through a proper magnifying glaſs, will convey a tolerable idea of the former.

Tigers


Black tyger
male Panther
Lynx

Tigers are the ſcourge of the country where they inhabit; they lurk among the buſhes on the ſides of rivers, and almoſt depopulate many places; they ſeem to prefer preying on the human race rather than on any other animals. They do not purſue their prey, but bound on it from their ambuſh with great elaſticity, and from a diſtance that is almoſt incredible. If they miſs their object, they inſtantly retire, but, if they ſucceed, they carry off their prey with the greateſt eaſe, even if it is as large as a buffalo. If they are undiſturbed, they plunge their head into the body of the animal up to the very eyes, as if it were to ſatiate themſelves with blood. In their devaſtations, there is a ſort of cruelty unknown to the generous lion, as well as a kind of cowardice in their ſudden retreat on any diſappointment.

To give a complete idea of the aſtoniſhing ſtrength of the tiger, we ſhall quote the ſubſtance of a paſſage from Father Frenchard, who ſaw a combat between a tiger and two elephants at Siam. It was within a lofty palliſade, about an hundred feet ſquare: at firſt three elephants were produced, with their heads and part of their trunks covered with a kind of armour; a tiger was then brought forth from its den, of a ſize much larger than he had ever ſeen before. It was at firſt held with cords, and one of the elephants approaching, gave it ſeveral blows on the back with its trunk, with ſuch force, that the tiger fell, and for ſome time lay motionleſs; but, when he was ſet at liberty, though the firſt blows had greatly abated his fury, he made

at the elephant with a loud ſhriek, and aimed at ſeizing his trunk. The elephant drew it up with great dexterity, received the tiger on his great teeth, and threw it up into the air: after this it was diſcouraged from venturing again to approach the elephant; inſtead of which he made ſeveral circuits round the palliſade, frequently attempting to fly at the ſpectators. At length three elephants were ſent againſt it, who ſtruck it ſo terribly with their trunks, that it once more lay for dead; and it certainly would have been killed, had not the combat been put a ſtop to.

We have no certain accounts as to the number of young which the tigreſs brings forth, but it is ſaid ſhe produces four or five at a time.

The ſkin of the tiger is much eſteemed all over the Eaſt, eſpecially in China, where the mandarins cover their ſeats of juſtice with it; but in Europe thoſe of the panther and leopard are held in much greater eſtimation. The Indians ſometimes eat the fleſh of this animal, though they do not look upon it as a delicacy.

THE PANTHER.

THIS animal has been miſtaken for the tiger by many naturaliſts; it is, however, ſpotted, and not ſtreaked like the tiger. The panther is an inhabitant of Africa, from Barbary to the remoteſt parts of Guinea. It is to Africa what the tiger is to Aſia, with this alleviation, that it prefers the fleſh of other animals to that of mankind;

mankind; but, when excited by hunger, attacks every thing that hath life without diſtinction. It ſeizes its prey like the tiger, always by ſurpriſe; and will alſo climb up the trees in purſuit of monkies and leſſer animals. It is an untameable ſpecies, always retaining its fierce malevolent aſpect, and continual growl or murmur.

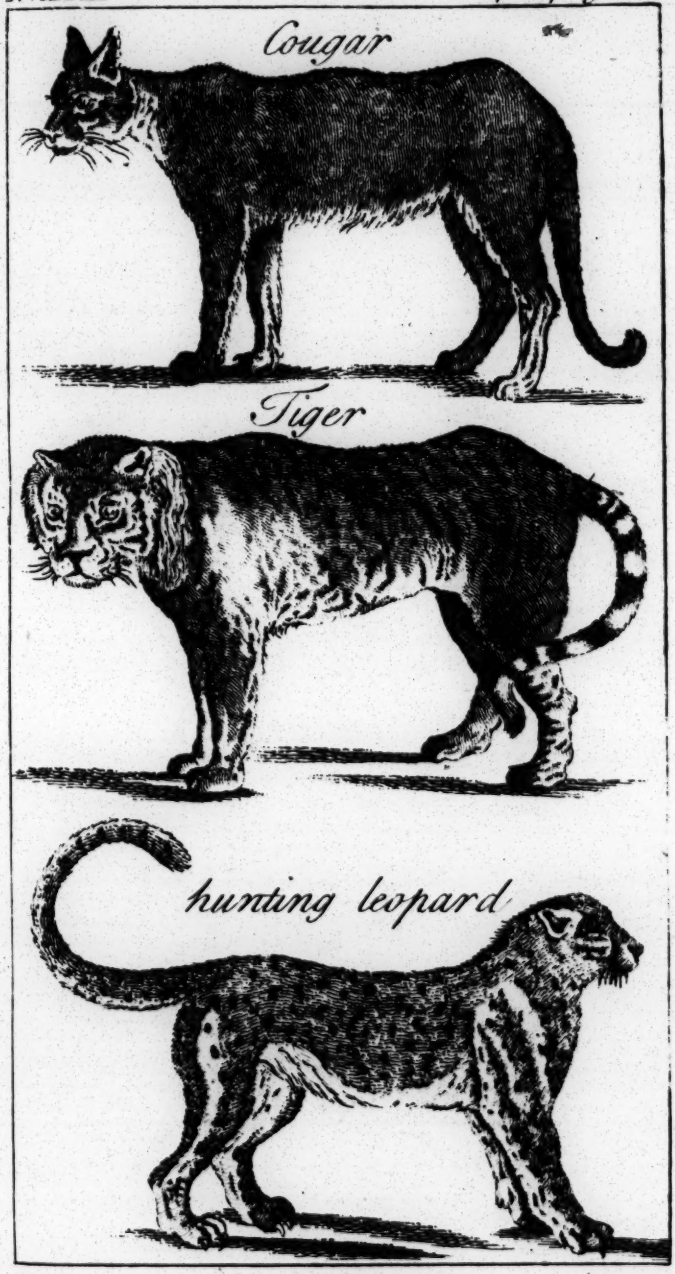
THE LEOPARD.

THE leopard, called alſo the panther of Bengal, is a native of Senegal and Guinea. The principal differences between this animal and the panther are theſe: the large panther is often found to be ſix feet long, and the leopard or panther of Senegal ſeldom exceeds four. The large panther is marked in different places with five or ſix ſpots, forming a kind of circle, with a large one in the middle. The latter has a more beautiful coat; the ſpots are ſmaller, and diſpoſed in cluſters, which have a pleaſing appearance, as the yellow ground is more brilliant. As to the reſt, the ſpots of both are black, they are both whitiſh under the belly, and the tails of both are long; but thoſe of the leopard are rather longer in proportion. Theſe animals ſpare neither man nor any other creature: when they cannot get a ſufficient ſupply of the beaſts of the chace, they deſcend in crowds from the internal parts of Africa, and make terrible havock among the numerous herds that cover the rich meadows of the Lower Guinea; they tear their prey in pieces both with

with their claws and teeth, and are always thin, though perpetually devouring. These animals are taken in pitfalls, covered over with ſlight hurdles, on which a bait of fleſh is placed. Their fleſh is ſaid to be well taſted, and as white as veal; their ſkins are very valuable, and often brought into Europe.

THE HUNTING LEOPARD.

THE face of this animal is ſlightly ſpotted, and its body is of a light tawny brown, marked with a great number of ſmall round black ſpots, not in circles, but each diſtinct. Its tail is longer than the body, and of a reddiſh brown colour. It is about the ſize of a large greyhound, has a long body, narrow cheſt, and very long legs. It is a native of India, and is tamed and trained for the chace of antelopes. It is carried to the foreſt in a ſmall kind of waggon, and is chained and hoodwinked till it approaches the herd. It does not make its attack immediately as it is unchained, but winds along the ground, and endeavours to conceal itſelf till it gets a proper advantage, when it darts on the animal with ſurpriſing ſwiftneſs. If it does not ſucceed in its firſt efforts, conſiſting of four or five leaps, it miſſes its prey; and, for that time, gives up the point, and readily returns to its maſter, having loſt its breath, and finding itſelf unequal in ſpeed.


Cougar
Tiger
hunting leopard

THE OUNCE.

THE ounce is conſiderably ſmaller than the panther, and ſeldom exceeds three feet and an half in length; but its hair is longer than that of the panther, and its tail more ſo in proportion. The colour of the ounce is rather inclining to a cream colour, but rather whiter towards the belly than on the back; the hair on the belly is alſo longer than on the back. Its ſpots are diſpoſed ſomewhat like thoſe of the panther, except that on the haunches it has rather ſtripes than ſpots. This ſpecies is of a ſtrong make, and has ſhort legs and a ſhort back. It is a native of Barbary, Perſia, and China; and is an animal of a more gentle nature than moſt of the preceding. Like the laſt, it is uſed for the chace of antelopes, and even hares. It is not, like the leopard, conveyed in a waggon, but is carried on the crupper on horſeback: it is as obedient as a ſetting dog, returns upon his maſter's call, and jumps up behind him.

THE TIGER CAT.

THIS animal is leſs than the ounce, but its ſkin is more beautifully variegated. It inhabits Mexico, the neighbourhood of Carthagena, and Braſil. It lives in the mountains, and is very voracious, but fearful of mankind. It preys on calves and different ſorts of game. It lurks amidſt the leaves of trees, and ſometimes will extend itſelf along the boughs, as if dead, till the

the monkies, tempted by their natural curioſity, approaching to examine it, become its prey. The fur is of a reddiſh colour, beautified with black ſpots, and ſtreaks of different figures; the ears are ſtriped acroſs with black, but in other reſpects they reſemble thoſe of a cat.

THE LYNX.

THE principal diſtinction between the lynx and thoſe of the panther kind is in its tail, which is about half as long in proportion, and black at the extremity. Its fur is much longer, and the ſpots on the ſkin are tufted and irregular; its ears are longer, and tipped with a black tuft of hair at the points. This animal is an inhabitant of the hotteſt parts of South America, and is very fierce. Like the tiger, it plunges its head into the body of its prey, and ſucks out the blood before it devours it. It makes a noiſe in the night like the howling of an hungry dog; but is a very cowardly animal, and eaſily put to flight, either by a ſhepherd's dog, or by a lighted torch, being much terrified at fire. It lies in ambuſh near the river ſide; and a ſingular combat ſometimes happens between this animal and the crocodile; when the lynx comes to the river to drink, the crocodile, which is always ready to ſurprize any animal that approaches, raiſes its head out of the water, the lynx immediately ſtrikes its claws into the only penetrable part of this dreadful reptile, which is the eye; the crocodile inſtantly dives under the

Persian Lynx
Syagush
Brown Bear

the water, pulling his enemy after him, where they uſually periſh together.

THE COUGAR.

THIS animal is a native of the continent of America, from Canada to Braſil; and in South America is called puma, and miſtaken for the lion. It is the ſcourge of the colonies in the hotter parts of America, and is fierce and ravenous to the higheſt degree. It ſwims over the broad rivers, and attacks the cattle even in incloſures. When preſſed with hunger, it does not even ſpare mankind. But their fury is ſubdued by the rigour of the climate in North America; the ſmalleſt cur, when accompanied by his maſter, will there make them ſeek for ſecurity by running up the trees; but then they are equally deſtructive to domeſtic animals, and are the greateſt nuiſance that the planter has. When they lay in wait for the mooſe or other deer, they lie cloſe on the branch of a tree till the animal paſſes beneath them, when they drop upon him, and immediately deſtroy him. Wolves are alſo the prey of this animal. The fur of the cougar is ſoft, and eſteemed among the Indians, who during the winter cover themſelves with it; the fleſh is eaten by them, and is ſaid to be as white and as good as veal. The back, neck, rump, and ſides of this animal are of a browniſh red, mixed with duſky hairs, and the belly is whitiſh; the teeth are of a vaſt ſize, and the claws are white. It purrs like a cat, and has a tail about two feet eight inches long.

THE

The SIAGUSH.

THIS is a native of India, Perſia, and Barbary, and reſembles the lynx in ſize, in form, and in the ſingularity of being tufted at the tips of the ears. The upper part of the body is of a very pale reddiſh brown; the tail rather darker; and the belly and breaſt whitiſh. The ſiaguſh is often brought up tame, and uſed in the chace of leſſer quadrupeds, and the larger ſort of birds, which they ſurprize with great addreſs. It is very fierce when provoked, and when it ſeizes its prey, it holds it faſt in its mouth, and for ſome time lies motionleſs on it. This creature is ſaid to attend the lion, and to feed on the remains of the prey which that animal leaves.

The BLACK BEAR.

THERE are three different kinds of the bear, the brown bear of the Alps, the black bear of North America, which is ſmaller, and the great Greenland, or white bear. Though different in form and diſpoſition, they are doubtleſs of the ſame original, and owe their principal variations to food and climate. Theſe animals ſtrike with their fore feet like a cat, and very ſeldom uſe their mouths in fighting, but ſeize the aſſailant with their paws, and, preſſing him againſt their breaſt, almoſt inſtantly ſqueeze him to death. When the females are with

young, they retire into the moſt ſecret places, leſt, when they bring forth, the males ſhould deſtroy their cubs. They bring forth two, and ſometimes three at a time. The fleſh of a bear in autumn, when they are become exceedingly fat, by feeding on acorns and other maſt, is moſt delicate food; and that of the cubs is ſtill more excellent; but the paws of the old bears are reckoned the moſt delicious morſel: their fat alſo, which preſerves a certain degree of fluidity, is very white and ſweet.

After having fattened himſelf to the greateſt degree, the bear retires to its den, where he continues forty or fifty days in total inactivity, and abſtinence from food; but at the end of that time he is forced from his retreat by hunger; and when he comes forth to ſeek for freſh nouriſhment, he ſeems to have ſlept all his fleſh away. It is a vulgar error that, during this time, they live by ſucking their paws; they rather ſubſiſt upon the exuberance of their former fleſh, and only feel the call of appetite when the fat which they had acquired in ſummer becomes almoſt exhauſted.

Their retreats are either in the cliffs of rocks, in the deepeſt receſſes of the thickeſt woods, or in the hollows of decayed trees, which they aſcend and deſcend with ſurpriſing agility. Multitudes of bears are annually killed in America for their fleſh and ſkins, both of which are valuable, but the latter makes a conſiderable article of commerce.

The bear has a long head, ſmall eyes, and ſhort ears, rounded at the top; its body is co-

vered with very long and ſhaggy hair; its limbs are ſtrong, thick, and clumſy; and it has a ſhort tail and large feet.

THE BROWN BEAR.

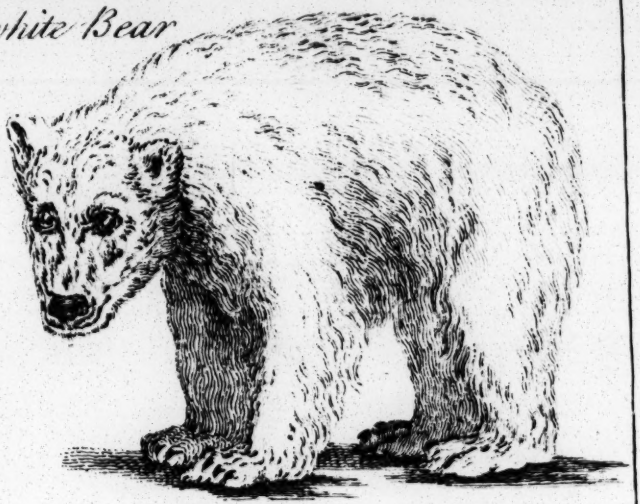
THE brown bear is not only ſavage but ſolitary; it is ſometimes carnivorous, and will deſtroy cattle, and eat carrion; but the general food of this and the other varieties, is roots, fruits, and vegetables; it will rob the fields of peaſe, and pluck up great quantities of them when they are ripe; it will afterwards beat them out of the huſks on ſome hard place, eat them, and carry away the ſtraw. In the winter it will alſo break into the farmer's yard, and make great havock among his oats.

The voice of the bear is a kind of growl, and though, when tamed, it appears gentle and placid to its maſter, yet it ſhould be cautiouſly managed, as it is often capricious, treacherous, and revengeful. This animal, though in appearance extremely aukward and ſtupid, is capable of receiving ſome inſtruction. There are very few who have not ſeen it dance upon its hind feet; which trick it is taught to perform by ſetting it upon hot plates of iron, and playing to it while it is in this uneaſy ſituation.

When come to maturity the bear can never be tamed; but, notwithſtanding its fierceneſs, the natives in thoſe countries where it inhabits hunt it with great alacrity. The moſt general

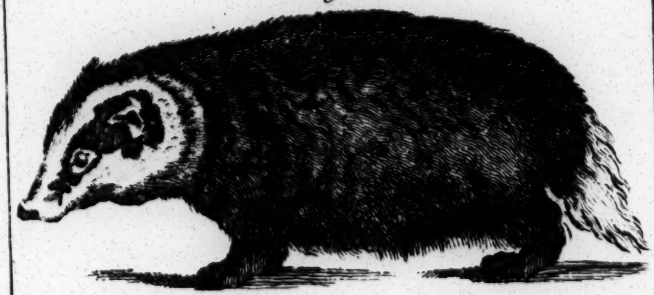
and

white Bear



Wolverene

Badger



and leaſt dangerous method of taking it is thus: they mix brandy with honey, of which it is extremely fond, and laying it in the hollow of trees, the animal finds it, devours it, and becomes intoxicated.

THE WHITE OR POLAR BEAR.

THE white bear grows to a vaſt ſize, and as the lion is the tyrant of an African foreſt, ſo the bear is the undiſputed maſter of the icy mountains in Greenland and Spitzbergen. When ſhot at, or wounded, they endeavour to fly; but if they find themſelves incapable of flight, they make a fierce and vigorous reſiſtance till they die. Theſe animals live upon fiſh, ſeals, and the carcaſes of whales; they alſo feed on human bodies, which they greedily diſinter. They delight in human blood, and are ſo daring as to attack companies of armed men, and even to board ſmall veſſels.

Dr. Goldſmith ſays, "It often happens, that when a Greenlander and his wife are paddling out at ſea, by coming too near an ice float, a white bear ſometimes unexpectedly jumps into their boat, and if he does not overſet it, ſits calmly where he firſt came down, and like a paſſenger ſuffers himſelf to be rowed along. It is probable the poor little Greenlander is not very fond of his new gueſt; however, he makes a virtue of neceſſity, and hoſpitably rows him to ſhore."

The fleſh of this animal is white, and has the taſte of mutton: its fat is melted for train oil, and that extracted from the feet is uſed in medicine. The liver, however, is very unwholeſome.

THE WOLVERENE, OR GLUTTON.

THIS animal has a black ſharp-pointed viſage, and ſhort round ears, almoſt covered with the hair. On the head, back, and belly, the hair is reddiſh, with black tips, ſo that at the firſt view thoſe parts appear quite black; the ſides are of a yellowiſh brown; on the throat is a white ſpot, and on the breaſt a white mark in the form of a creſcent; the legs are of a deep black, and thick, ſhort, and ſtrong. This animal reſts on its foot like the bear, as far as the firſt joint of the leg. Its tail is clothed with long coarſe hair, reddiſh at the baſe, and black at the end. The length of this creature is twenty-eight inches from noſe to tail; and the whole body is covered with very long and thick hair, varying in colour according to the ſeaſon. It is an inhabitant of Hudſon's Bay and Canada, and is found under the name of the Glutton in the northern parts of Europe and Aſia, being a native of the moſt rigorous climates. It is a moſt voracious animal, but ſo ſlow of foot, that it is obliged to take its prey by ſurprize. It often lurks in trees, and falls on the quadrupeds that paſs under. It will faſten on the

the ſhoulders of the horſe, elk, or ſtag, and continue eating a hole into its body, till the animal falls down with the pain.

It is very fierce in a wild ſtate, and is a terror to both the wolf and the bear. The fur is in great eſtimation in Europe.

THE RACOON.

THIS animal is about the ſize of a ſmall badger. Its body is ſhort and bulky; it has a ſharp pointed black noſe, ſhort ears, and eyes ſurrounded with two broad patches of black; the upper-jaw is longer than the under; the teeth reſemble thoſe of a dog; the tail is thick, but tapering, and regularly annulated with black; the fore feet are ſhorter than the hinder, and both are armed with five ſharp claws. It inhabits the warm and temperate parts of America, and is alſo found on the mountains of Jamaica. It is eaſily tamed, and is then very good natured and ſportive, but as unlucky as a monkey, and perpetually in motion. Like the ſquirrel, it holds its food in its paws whilſt eating; in this reſpect it differs from the monkey kind, which uſe only one hand upon theſe occaſions, but the racoon and the ſquirrel uſe both. Though this animal is ſhort and bulky, it is extremely active; with the aſſiſtance of its pointed claws it climbs nimbly up the trees; it runs upon the trunk with the ſame facility that it moves upon the plain; and ſports upon the branches of the trees with eaſe, ſwiftneſs, and

ſecurity. It is very curious and inquiſitive, examining every thing with its paws. Of one of theſe animals in the Tower a few years ago, the keeper told, that he cleaned out his own den, and always waſhed his victuals before he ate it. It is extravagantly fond of ſweet things and ſtrong liquors, and will get exceſſively intoxicated. The racoon is very deſtructive to poultry, and will eat any kind of fruit, green corn, &c. and, if near the coaſt, will feed on oyſters at low water. It will watch the opening of the oyſter, and ſnatch out the fiſh with its claw; but ſometimes the ſhell cloſes upon its paw, and keeps it faſt till the coming in of the tide, by which means the racoon is drowned. The fur of this animal is next to that of the beaver, and is excellent for making hats. There is one very remarkable peculiarity in the racoon. In drinking it both ſucks up its liquor like the horſe, and laps it like the dog.

THE BADGER.

THE legs of this animal appear very ſhort, and the body ſeems almoſt to touch the ground. It has ſmall eyes, ſhort round ears, and a ſhort thick neck; the noſe, chin, lower ſides of the cheeks, and the middle of the forehead are white; it is covered with long coarſe hair like briſtles, which makes the animal's legs ſeem much ſhorter than they really are. The uſual length of the badger is two feet four inches, excluſive of the tail, which is about four inches. The hair on the body is of three colours, the bottoms

Opossum
Lesser Otter
Polecat
Brasilian Weesel

bottoms are of a dirty yellowiſh white, the middle black, and the ends grey; whence aroſe the proverb, "As grey as a badger." It is a ſolitary ſtupid animal, and, remote from man, digs a deep hole with great aſſiduity. It ſteals out at night to find ſubſiſtence, but ſeldom quits its retreat in the day-time, chooſing, it is imagined, to avoid the light.

The badger is an inoffenſive animal, and feeds upon roots, fruits, graſs, inſects, and frogs. It is indolent, and ſleeps the greateſt part of its time; it is therefore always found very fat. The female brings forth but once a year, which is in ſummer, and generally produces four or five at a time.

Theſe animals are hunted in the winter nights, and, when taken, their hind quarters are ſometimes made into hams, which are ſaid to be good eating. The ſkin, with the hair on, is uſed for piſtol furniture, and of the hair, bruſhes are made to ſoften ſhades in painting. Badgers inhabit moſt parts of Europe. The parts of England in which they now chiefly abound are Eſſex, Suſſex, and ſome of the midland counties.

THE OPOSSUM.

THE head of the opoſſum reſembles that of the fox; it has fifty teeth, but two in the middle are very large like thoſe of the rat; the eyes are ſmall, black, lively, and placed upright; the ears are large, broad, naked, and tranſparent,

rent, like thoſe of the rat kind; the baſe of the tail, for about three inches, is clothed with long hair like that on the back, but the reſt of the tail is covered with ſmall ſcales, appearing naked at firſt view. The body is round and pretty thick, and the legs ſhort; the feet reſemble hands, each having five toes or fingers, with white crooked nails.

The tail of this animal has a diſagreeable appearance, looking like the body of a ſnake. It will hang ſuſpended by it from the branches, and, by ſwinging its body, throw itſelf among the boughs of the neighbouring trees. It is an inhabitant of Virginia, Louiſiana, Mexico, Braſil, and Peru. It deſtroys poultry, and ſucks the blood without devouring the fleſh; it alſo feeds on roots and wild fruits, and eagerly hunts after birds and their neſts. It walks extremely ſlow, and, when purſued and overtaken, will feign itſelf dead. The female makes a neſt for its young in a buſh or thicket at the foot of a tree, and brings forth four, five, or ſix young at a time.

What diſtinguiſhes the opoſſum from all other animals is a large pouch in the lower part of the belly of the female, in which the teats are lodged, and where the young are ſheltered as ſoon as they are brought forth, or in time of danger or fatigue, and faſten cloſely to the teats. The dam, on ſuch occaſions, opens her bag to receive them; for it has a power of opening and cloſing at the will of the animal.

The fleſh of the old opoſſum is like that of a ſucking pig: the ſkin has a very offenſive ſmell.

THE

THE MARMOSE.

THE marmoſe reſembles the opoſſum, but is ſmaller; and, inſtead of a bag to receive its young, they fix themſelves to the teats as ſoon as they are brought forth, and there remain, like ſo many inanimate beings, till they attain ſufficient ſtrength and vigour to enable them to ſhift for themſelves. On each ſide of the belly the ſkin forms a fold, between which are lodged the teats. The young, when firſt brought forth, are no larger than a bean, but they continue attached to the teat till they are pretty large.

OF ANIMALS OF THE WEASEL KIND.

THE weaſel kind may be diſtinguiſhed from other carnivorous animals by their long and ſlender bodies, which enable them, like worms, to wind into very ſmall openings after their prey. In the formation and diſpoſition of their claws, theſe animals differ from all thoſe of the cat kind, as they can neither draw them in nor extend them, as cats are known to do. They are clothed with fur rather than with hair, and therein differ from the dog kind. They are cruel, cowardly, and voracious, ſubſiſting only by theft, and principally protected by their ſmallneſs

ſmallneſs and inſignificancy. Having ſhort legs, they are ſlow in purſuit, and obtain a ſupport by cunning, patience, and aſſiduity. Their prey being precarious, they often live a long time without food; but when they meet with ſucceſs, they deſtroy all about them before they begin to feed, and ſuck the blood of every animal before they regale upon its fleſh. The weaſel is the beſt known of any of this kind, and will ſerve as a model for all the reſt; for the particulars in which they differ from this little animal are not very conſiderable.

THE WEASEL.

THE weaſel is the ſmalleſt of this numerous tribe, the length of the head and body not exceeding ſix or ſeven inches. The tail is about two inches and an half long, and ends in a point. The length of this animal, however, appears very great when compared with its height, which does not exceed an inch and a half. The eyes are ſmall and black; the ears are large, and the lower parts of them doubled in. The head, tail, legs, and feet, and the upper part of the body, are of a very pale tawny brown; the lower part of the body, from the chin to the tail, is white; but on each jaw is a ſpot of brown beneath the corners of the mouth. It has whiſkers, and thirty-two teeth, which are two more than any of the cat kind have, and they ſeem well adapted both for chewing and tearing.

Though

Though a very diminutive animal, it is very deſtructive to rabbits, poultry, and young birds, and is alſo a great devourer of eggs. It is a moſt noxious animal in thoſe places where lambs are bred; but where agriculture is chiefly followed, the weaſel is conſidered as a friend that deſtroys ſuch vermin as live chiefly upon corn. The weaſel frequents out-houſes, barns, and granaries, where, in order to make ſome atonement for its depredations among our poultry, it preſently clears its haunts from rats and mice, being a greater enemy to them than even the cat itſelf.

This is an untameable and untractable creature. When kept in a cage, either for amuſement or inſpection, it will not touch its victuals if any perſon looks on. It ſeems continually agitated, and ſo terrified at the ſight of mankind, that, if not permitted to hide itſelf from their view, it will even expire. It muſt therefore have a ſufficient quantity of wool or hay in its cage, under which it may conceal itſelf, and whatever it has to eat. It paſſes three parts of the day in ſleeping, and employs the night in exerciſe and eating. The ſides of walls it will run up with ſuch facility, that few places are ſecure from it; and its body is ſo ſlender, that there is hardly a hole but what is pervious to it.

The female brings forth four or five at a time, and, like thoſe of the dog kind, all theſe animals bring forth their young blind. This animal, as well as all thoſe of its kind, has a very

very ſtrong offenſive ſmell, proceeding from the fœtid glands beneath the tail.

THE STOAT, OR ERMINE.

THE ſtoat, or ermine, differs from the weaſel in ſize, being uſually nine or ten inches long; and the weaſel ſeldom exceeding ſix or ſeven. This animal, indeed, like the weaſel, is of a lightiſh brown, and, like the weaſel in the moſt northern parts of Europe, changes its colour in winter, and becomes white; but the weaſel may be diſtinguiſhed from the ermine by the tip of its tail, which is always black.

The ermine is remarkable for the ſoftneſs, the cloſeneſs, and the warmth of its fur, which is the moſt valuable of any hitherto known. The ſkins and tails are a very valuable article of commerce in Norway, Lapland, Ruſſia, and other countries, where they are found in prodigious numbers. The ſtoat is ſometimes found white in Great Britain, but not often; and then it is called a white weaſel.

This animal reſembles the weaſel in its habits, and choice of food; but does not frequent houſes. Its haunts are woods and hedges, eſpecially ſuch as border on brooks or rivers. Its agility is equal to that of the weaſel, and its ſcent is equally fœtid.

THE POLE-CAT.

The pole-cat is larger than the weaſel or the ermine, being about ſeventeen inches in length, excluſive of the tail, which is ſix. It is of a deep chocolate colour, has a ſpace of white round the mouth; the ears are ſhort, rounded, and tipt with white. It ſo nearly reſembles the ferret in form, that many have ſuppoſed them to be the ſame animal. It is long and ſlender, nimble, and active, and will creep up the ſides of walls with great agility. Like the reſt of the tribe, the pole-cat is very deſtructive to poultry of all kinds: it alſo makes a common practice of robbing the dairy, and is a formidable enemy to pigeons; but the rabbit ſeems to be its favourite prey; a ſingle pole-cat is almoſt ſufficient to deſtroy a whole warren, for it has ſuch an inſatiable thirſt for blood, that it kills much more than it can devour. The female brings forth about five or ſix at a time. When alive, the ſmell of the pole-cat is rank and diſagreeable even to a proverb; the ſkin is nevertheleſs dreſſed with the hair on, and uſed for tippets, &c. like other furs.

THE FERRET.

THIS animal is a kind of domeſtic in Europe. It has a very ſharp noſe, red and fiery eyes, and round ears. The colour of the body is a pale yellow, but it is alſo found of all the

colours of the weaſel kind, white, black, brown, and party-coloured. It alſo reſembles the weaſel in the ſlenderneſs of its body and the ſhortneſs of its legs. It is a lively, active animal, and the natural enemy of rabbits; it ſucks the blood of its prey, but very ſeldom tears it. Ferrets breed in our climate, and bring forth from five to nine at a time.

The chief uſe of a ferret is to enter the holes of the rabbits and drive them into the nets that are prepared for them at the mouth. For this purpoſe it is muzzled, or, inſtead of driving the animal out, it would only kill and ſuck its blood; but, by this contrivance, the rabbit eſcapes from the ferret, and precipitately runs to the mouth of the hole, where it is entangled in the net provided for that purpoſe. Sometimes indeed it happens that the ferret diſengages itſelf of its muzzle, when it is uſually loſt, unleſs it be dug out; for, finding all its wants ſupplied in the warren, he continues there during ſummer, and in the winter periſhes with cold.

Theſe animals are uſually kept in boxes, like rabbit hutches, and are furniſhed with wool, of which they make themſelves a warm bed, to defend them from the rigour of the climate. The ferret is an uſeful, but a diſagreeable and offenſive animal. Its ſcent is fœtid, and its nature voracious; it is tame without any attachment, and has ſo ſtrong an appetite for blood, that it has been known to kill infants in the cradle. It is eaſily irritated, and then its ſmell is uncommonly offenſive, and its bite is not to be cured but with great difficulty.

THE MARTIN.

THE martin differs from the pole-cat in being about four or five inches longer; its tail is alſo longer, in proportion, and more buſhy at the end. It is a beautiful little animal; its head is ſmall and elegantly formed; its eyes are lively; and its colours are elegant; the back, ſides, and tail, are covered with a fine thick down, with long hair intermixed; the bottom is aſh-coloured; the middle of a bright cheſnut colour, and the tips black; the head is of a reddiſh brown; the throat and breaſt are white; the belly of the ſame colour with the back, but rather paler; the hair of the tail is very long, eſpecially at the top, where it appears thicker than near the inſertion. But theſe animals vary in their colours, inclining more or leſs to aſh colour, according to their age or the ſeaſon of the year.

All the motions of the martin diſplay grace as well as agility: it is eaſily tamed, and when taken young is extremely playful, being continually in good humour. If it happens to get looſe, it is not ſo ſtrongly attached to its maſter but it will take the advantage of its liberty and retire to its proper haunts. It makes terrible havock among poultry, game, &c. and will deſtroy rats, mice, and moles. In this country it inhabits woods, and makes its bed in the hollow of trees.

The ſcent of this animal, inſtead of being offenſive, is conſidered as a moſt pleaſing per-

ſume. The ſkin of the martin is a valuable fur, and is much uſed for linings to the gowns of magiſtrates.

THE SABLE.

THE ſable reſembles the martin both in form and ſize, and the weaſel in the number of its teeth, the martin having thirty-eight teeth, and the weaſel but thirty-four; therefore, in this reſpect, the ſable ſeems to make the ſhade between theſe two animals. It has long whiſkers, rounded ears, large feet, white claws, and a long buſhy tail. The ſkin of the ſable is the moſt coveted, and held in the higheſt eſteem of any of the furs of this tribe of animals. It is of a browniſh black, and the darkeſt is the moſt valuable, a ſingle ſkin being often ſold for ten or fifteen pounds. The ſable reſembles the reſt of the weaſel kind in vivacity and agility, in ſleeping by day, and ſearching for their prey by night, and in the diſagreeable odour by which that race is chiefly characteriſed. Theſe animals inhabit Siberia and Kamtſchatka, and ſome few of them are found in Lapland. They uſually live in holes in the earth, or beneath the roots of trees, and ſometimes, like the martin, they form their neſts in the trees, and will ſkip from one to the other with great agility. They bring forth about the end of March, or the beginning of April, and produce from three to five at a time, which they ſuckle about a month.

Theſe

Theſe animals are hunted in the winter for their ſkins, as they are only then in ſeaſon.

THE GUINEA WEASEL.

THIS animal is about the ſize of a rabbit, of a duſky colour, and its form is like that of a rat. Its upper jaw is much longer than the lower, and its eyes are placed about the mid way between the ears and the tip of the noſe; its ears are like human ears, and it has a remarkable rough tongue. It inhabits Guinea, and is very common about the negro ſettlements. It burrows like a rabbit, and is ſo fierce, that if provoked, it will fly at either man or beaſt.

THE ICHNEUMON.

THE ichneumon is uſually of the ſize of the martin, and greatly reſembles it, except that the hair, which is generally of a griſly black, is rougher and leſs downy, though the colour is various in different animals from different countries. The tail is leſs buſhy at the end than that of the martin, and every hair has three or four colours, which are ſeen in different diſpoſitions of its body.

This animal, which is alſo called the rat of Pharaoh, has all the ſtrength, agility, and inſtinct of a cat; it has a more univerſal appetite for carnage, and a greater variety of methods

to procure it. Rats, mice, birds, ſerpents, lizards, and inſects, are all equally purſued by this animal; but it is particularly ſerviceable to the Egyptians, as it is a great deſtroyer of the eggs of crocodiles, which it digs out of the ſand, and even kills multitudes of the young of thoſe terrible reptiles before they have been able to reach the water. It is even ſaid, that when it finds a crocodile ſleeping on the ſhore, it boldly enters the mouth of that animal, attacks the enemy in the inſide, and, when it has effectually deſtroyed it, eats its way out again. It will take the water like an otter, and continue longer under it. It is found in Egypt, Barbary, India, and its iſlands. It is at preſent domeſticated, and kept in houſes in Egypt and India, where it is more uſeful than a cat in deſtroying rats and mice. It grows very tame, and will ſit up like a ſquirrel, feeding itſelf with its fore feet, and catching any thing that is thrown to it.

THE SQUASH.

THE upper jaw of this animal is much longer than the lower; its ears are rounded, and its hair pretty long, hard, and upright. It is varied with black and white, and has only four toes on each foot before, though all other weaſels have five.

Fossane
Squash
Civet
Otter

THE STIFLING WEASEL.

THIS animal has a ſhort ſlender noſe, ſhort ears and legs, and its body is black and full of hair; its tail, which is long, is black and white; its length, from the noſe to the inſertion of the tail, is about eighteen inches. It is a native of Mexico, and probably ſome other parts of America.

This animal, the conepate of Buffon, the ſkunk, the zorilla, and fizzler, are all remarkable for the peſtiferous, ſtinking, and ſuffocating vapour they emit from behind, when attacked, purſued, or terrified. It is indeed their only means of defence. Some turn their tail to their enemy, and emit a horrid effluvia, and others ejaculate their urine to a very conſiderable diſtance: the terrible ſtench immediately ſtops the purſuers, and if any of this liquid ſhould happen to fall into the eyes, it almoſt occaſions blindneſs; if on the clothes, the ſmell will continue for ſeveral days, and cannot be removed by waſhing; they muſt even be buried in freſh earth in order to be ſweetened. Dogs that have been uſed to hunt this animal will kill it, but others run back as ſoon as they perceive the ſmell. Even thoſe dogs which have been accuſtomed to them are obliged to relieve themſelves, by frequently thruſting their noſes into the ground. Profeſſor Kalm ſays, he was in danger of being ſuffocated by one that was purſued into a houſe where he ſlept; and the cattle were ſo much affected,

that

that they bellowed through pain. Another, which was killed by a woman in a cellar, ſo affected her with its ſtench, that ſhe kept her bed for ſeveral days after, and all the meat and other proviſions that were kept there were ſo infected, that the owner was obliged to throw them away. Notwithſtanding this, the Americans eat its fleſh, which they reckon good food; but they are careful to deprive it of thoſe glands which are ſo abominably offenſive.

The Virginian ſpecies is capable of being tamed, and will follow its maſter like a dog, and never emits its vapour except it is injured or frighted.

In other reſpects, the ſquaſh, the conepate, the ſkunk, the zorilla, and the fizzler, do not materially differ. The ſquaſh is about the ſize of a pole-cat, and its hair is of a deep brown; but, as already obſerved, it has only four toes on each foot. The ſkunk alſo reſembles a pole-cat in ſhape and ſize, but its colour is partly black and partly white, variouſly diſpoſed over the body; and the hair is very long, gloſſy, and beautiful. Mr. Buffon ſuppoſes the conepate and the zorilla to be the ſame; and indeed it appears needleſs to make a diſtinction, as they perfectly reſemble each other, except in ſize; the conepate being ſomewhat ſmaller. The zorilla reſembles the ſkunk, but is ſmaller, and more beautifully coloured, its ſtreaks of black and white being more diſtinct and regular.

THE CIVET.

LIKE the reſt of the weaſel kind, the civet has a long ſlender body, ſhort legs, and an odorous matter exuding from the glands behind. It is, however, much larger than any of thoſe which have already been deſcribed; its length from noſe to tail being about two feet three inches, the tail fourteen inches, and the body pretty thick. It has a long noſe like that of a fox. The colour of the civet varies, but it is uſually aſh ſpotted with black; though in the female it is whiter, and tending to yellow, and the ſpots are much larger, like thoſe of the panther; the civet has whiſkers, like the reſt of its kind, and its eyes are black and beautiful.

This animal inhabits India, the Philippine iſlands, Guinea, Æthiopia, and Madagaſcar. The famous drug muſk, or civet, is produced from an overture between the privities and the anus, in both ſexes, ſecreted from certain glands. Thoſe who keep them, provide for them a box for an habitation, and procure the muſk by ſcraping the inſide of the box about twice or three times a week with an iron ſpatula, and get about a dram each time. But it is difficult to get it pure, being generally mixed with ſuet or oil, to add to the weight. The male yields the moſt, eſpecially if it be previouſly irritated. When young, they are fed with pap made of millet, and a little fleſh or fiſh, and, when old, they are fed principally with raw fleſh. In a wild ſtate they prey on fowl.

Though

Though the civet is a native of the warmeſt climates, it will live in temperate, and even cold climates, if carefully defended from the injuries of the weather. Great numbers of theſe animals are bred in Holland, where conſiderable advantage is made of its perfume. The muſk of Amſterdam is reckoned the beſt of any, it being leſs adulterated than that of any other country.

The perfume of the civet is ſo ſtrong, that it communicates itſelf to every part of the body; like all the weaſel kind, however, the ſcent of this animal, when irritated, is much more violent than ordinary.

The civet is a fierce animal, and, though capable of being tamed in ſome degree, is never thoroughly familiar.

THE GENET.

THE genet is uſually ſomewhat ſmaller than the martin, and reſembles all thoſe of the weaſel kind, in its length compared to its height: it has a ſoft beautiful fur, its feet armed with claws that cannot be ſheathed, the noſe reſembling that of a fox, and the tail tapers to a point, its paws are ſmaller, and its ears larger. It is a beautiful animal, ſpotted with black, upon a ground mixed with red and grey. Upon the ſides, its ſpots are diſtinct and ſeparate, but unite towards the back, and form black ſtripes. It has a kind of mane the whole length of the back, forming a black ſtreak from the head to the tail; and the tail has alternate rings of black and white, from the inſertion to the end.

This

This animal is an inhabitant of Turkey, Syria, and Spain, and frequents the banks of rivers. It ſmells faintly of muſk, and, like the civet, has an orifice beneath the tail. It is eaſily tamed, and, in the houſes of Conſtantinople, is permitted to run about like a cat, and is as uſeful as that animal in catching mice.

THE FOSSANE

HAS a ſlender body, covered with aſh-coloured hair, mixed with tawny; four black lines extend from the hind part of the head towards the back and ſhoulders; the ſhoulders, ſides, and thighs are black, and it has regular rings of black the whole length of its tail. It inhabits Madagaſcar, Guinea, and the Philippine iſles. It is fierce, and almoſt untameable: it deſtroys poultry, and, when young, is reckoned excellent food.

THE OTTER.

THE otter is an amphibious animal, reſembling thoſe of the terreſtrial kind in ſhape, hair, and internal conformation, and reſembling the aquatic tribes in the manner of living, and in having membranes or webs between the toes to aſſiſt it in ſwimming. It has a black noſe and long whiſkers; eyes very ſmall, and placed nearer the noſe than in other animals; the upper jaw longer and broader than the lower; the ears

ears ſmall, erect, and conic; the hair long and thick; the colour ſometimes varies to ſilvery; the legs are very ſhort, but remarkably ſtrong, broad, and muſcular; the toes are covered with hair, and joined by a web. The joints are ſo looſely articulated, that the otter is capable of turning them quite back, and bringing them on a line with the body, ſo as to perform the offices of fins. The length of this animal from noſe to tail is uſually about twenty-three inches; and its tail, which is flat and ſharp-pointed, and fulleſt of hair in the middle, is about thirteen inches.

This animal is found only at the ſides of lakes and rivers, and makes terrible havock in a lake or pond, where it deſtroys much more than it can devour, and in the ſpace of a few nights will ſometimes entirely ſpoil a pond. They are very injurious to fiſhermen, as they never fail to tear their nets in pieces whenever they happen to be entangled.

Though the otter is furniſhed with a ſupply much greater than its conſumption in ſummer, yet in winter this animal is greatly diſtreſſed, and is obliged to content itſelf with graſs, weeds, and the bark of trees. At times, grown courageous from hunger, it comes upon land, and feeds upon rats and inſects, and, ſome ſay, even upon ſheep.

In forming its habitation, the otter ſhews great ſagacity; it burrows under ground on the banks of ſome river or lake, and the extreme of its hole is always under water. It works upwards to the ſurface of the earth, and there makes a ſmall orifice for the admiſſion of air.

The

The otter brings forth four or five young at a time, and, as it frequents ponds near gentlemens' houſes, litters of them have ſometimes been found in cellars, ſinks, and other drains.

The colour of this animal is a deep brown, except two ſmall ſpots of white on each ſide of the noſe, and another under the chin. The ſkin, if the animal is killed in winter, is very valuable, and is much uſed by the inhabitants of cold countries for lining to their clothes; but in England it is ſeldom uſed for any thing but covers for piſtol furniture. The beſt furs of this kind are found in the northern parts of Europe and America. The fleſh of this animal is extremely rank and fiſhy. To take the old ones alive is no eaſy taſk, as they are extremely ſtrong, and few dogs will venture to encounter them: they bite with great vehemence, and when they have once faſtened will never quit their hold.

This animal inhabits all parts of Europe, north and north-eaſt of Aſia, and abounds in North America, particularly in Canada. It is capable of being tamed, when it will follow its maſter like a dog, and even fiſh for him.

THE LESSER OTTER.

THIS animal is about three times as ſmall as the common otter, though reſembling it in form; it has roundiſh ears, a white chin, and a hoary head; though the hair of ſome are tawny; its body is tawny and duſky; the ſhort

hair being yellowiſh, and the long hair black; the feet are broad, webbed, and covered with hair; the tail is duſky, and ends in a point. It is a native of Poland, and the north of Europe, and lives on fiſhes, frogs, and water inſects; its fur is in great eſteem, and next in beauty to that of the ſable. The ſkins are often brought over to England. It is a ſtinking animal, and is caught with dogs and traps. This animal is the ſame as the minx of America. It may be domeſticated, and is a great deſtroyer of rats and mice.

THE SEA OTTER.

THE upper jaw of this animal is longer and broader than the lower; it has a black noſe, and long white whiſkers; its ears are ſmall, erect, and conic; and in each jaw are four cutting teeth; the grinders are broad, and adapted for breaking cruſtaceous animals and ſhell fiſh. The hair is thick, long, black, and gloſſy, beneath which there is a ſoft down; its legs are thick and ſhort; the toes are covered with hair and joined by a web; the hind feet are like thoſe of a ſeal, and have a membrane ſkirting the outſide of the exterior toe, like that of a gooſe; it is about four feet two inches long from the noſe to the inſertion of the tail; and the tail, which is flat and ſharp-pointed, is about two inches. One of theſe animals is ſometimes found to weigh ſeventy or eighty pounds.

Sea

Sea otters are very numerous on the coaſts of Kamtſchatka, and thoſe parts of America oppoſite to it, which were diſcovered by the Ruſſians. They are alſo in the Braſilian rivers, and that of Oronoque. They are inoffenſive animals, and ſo remarkably affectionate to their young, that at the loſs of them they will pine to death, on the very ſpot where they have been taken from them. Before the young can ſwim, the old animals carry them in their paws, lying in the water on their backs. They are very ſportive, and chiefly inhabit the ſhallows, where plenty of ſea weeds are to be found. They feed upon lobſters and other fiſh. They breed once a year, and bring forth but one at a time, which is depoſited on ſhore. Theſe animals are hunted for their ſkins, which are very valuable; and the fleſh of their young is reckoned very delicate food, equal, if not ſuperior to that of lamb.

THE CAVY, OR GUINEA PIG.

IN England this animal is called a Guinea-pig, and by Buffon the Indian pig. Its ears are large, broad, and rounded at the ſides; its upper lip is half divided; and its hair erect, ſomewhat reſembling that of a young pig. The colour is white, or the white varied with orange, and black in irregular blotches. It has four toes on the fore feet, and three on the hind feet, but is without a tail. It is a native of Braſil, but writers have given no account of it in its wild

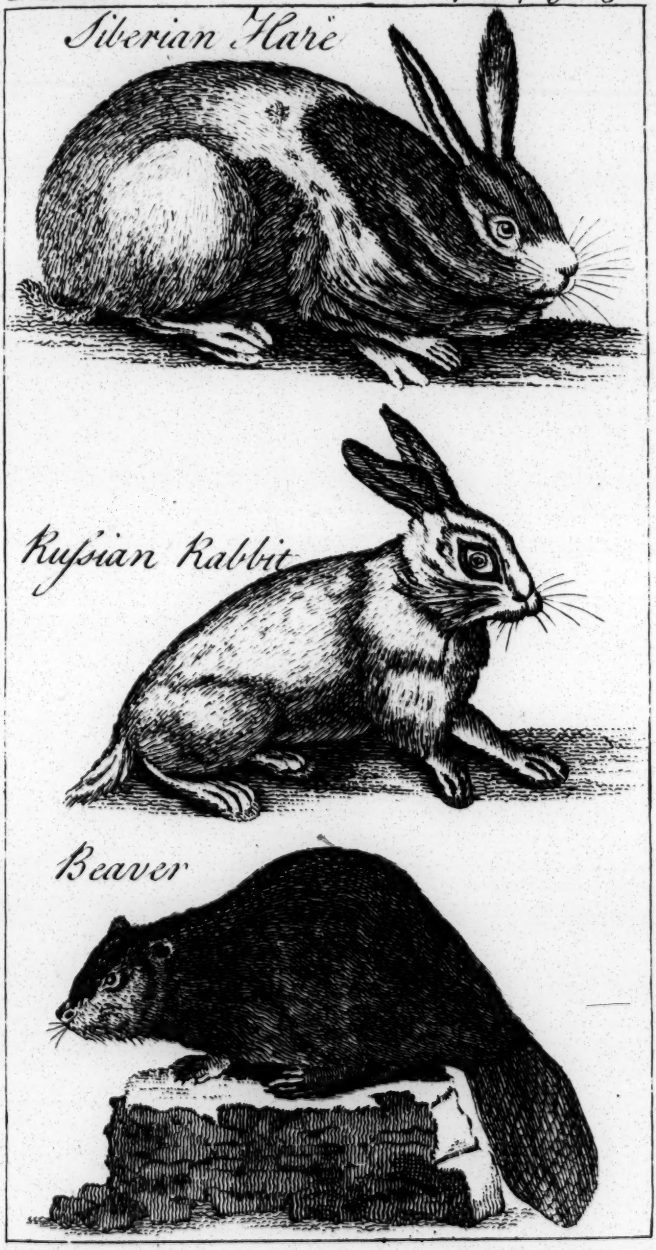
ſtate. It is become domeſtic in Europe, and is a reſtleſs, grunting little animal, continually running from corner to corner; and feeds on bread, vegetables, and grains. It is a prolific creature, and breeds every two months. Rats, it is ſaid, avoid the haunts of this animal.

THE MUSK CAVY.

THIS animal is almoſt as large as a rabbit; the upper part of its body is of a black colour, and its belly white. It burrows like a rabbit, and inhabits Martinico, and the reſt of the Antilles. It ſmells ſo ſtrong of muſk, that it may be purſued by its perfume.

THE HARE.

THE hare is one of the moſt perſecuted, and moſt timorous of animals: being a weak and defenceleſs creature, it is endued in a remarkable degree with that preſerving paſſion, fear; this makes it perpetually attentive to every alarm, and keeps it continually lean. To enable it to receive the moſt diſtant notices of danger, nature has provided it with very long ears, which, like the tubes applied to the ears of deaf people, convey to it thoſe ſounds which are remote, and the animals motions are directed accordingly. It has large prominent eyes, placed backwards in its head, and ſo adapted as to receive the rays of light on every ſide, ſo that


Siberian Hare
Russian Rabbit
Beaver

that while it runs it can almoſt ſee behind. The eyes of this animal are never wholly cloſed; it is ſo continually on the watch, that it even ſleeps with them open. The muſcles of the body are ſtrong and without fat; it has therefore no ſuperfluous burthen of fleſh to carry. To aſſiſt it to eſcape its purſuers, the hind legs are formed remarkably long, which ſtill adds to the rapidity of its motion; and ſo ſenſible is the animal of this peculiar advantage, that, when it is ſtarted, it always makes towards the riſing ground.

This animal ſeldom leaves its form in the day, but takes a circuit in ſearch of food in the night. The colour of the hare approaching very near to that of the ground, it is on that account more effectually ſecured from the ſight of men, and of beaſts and birds of prey. In northern countries, Providence has been ſo careful to preſerve theſe and many other animals, as to cauſe them to change colour and become white at the beginning of winter, to render them leſs conſpicuous amidſt the ſnow. Their natural inſtincts for their preſervation are indeed very extraordinary; they make themſelves a form, or bed, in thoſe places where the colour of the graſs moſt reſembles their ſkin; it is open to the ſouth in winter, and to the north in ſummer.

The hare multiplies exceedingly, and breeds when it is only a few months old; the female goes thirty days with young, and uſually brings but two at a time, though ſometimes three or four.

The food of the hare is entirely vegetable; they live upon graſs, roots, leaves, fruits, and corn, and prefer thoſe plants which ſupply a milky juice.

Theſe animals ſeldom live above ſeven or eight years. They inhabit every part of Europe, moſt parts of Aſia, and North America.

The fur of the hare is of great uſe in the hat manufacture; and, as this country cannot ſupply a ſufficient number, many thouſands of the ſkins are annually imported from Ruſſia and Siberia. The fleſh of the hare is much eſteemed by the inhabitants of Great Britain.

THE RABBIT.

THOUGH the hare and the rabbit nearly reſemble each other in form and diſpoſition, they are diſtinct kinds, and refuſe to mix with each other.

The female brings forth her young ſeparate from the male. On this occaſion ſhe digs herſelf an hole, different from the ordinary one, and more intricate, and makes a more ſpacious apartment at the bottom of it. She then plucks from her body a large quantity of hair, with which ſhe prepares a kind of bed for her young. She never leaves them the two firſt days, except to procure nouriſhment, and returns with the utmoſt diſpatch; ſhe continues to ſuckle her young almoſt ſix weeks, when they become ſtrong, and are able to go abroad. During all this time, their ſeparate apartment is ſeldom viſited

viſited by the male, but as ſoon as the little family are able to come to the mouth of the hole, he ſeems to acknowledge them as his offspring, takes them between his paws, ſmooths their ſkins, and licks their eyes, each, in its turns, having an equal ſhare of his careſſes.

The counties of England which are reckoned moſt famous for theſe animals, are Lincolnſhire, Norfolk, and Cambridgeſhire. The ſkins of the rabbit, eſpecially thoſe which are white, are uſed for lining clothes, and are conſidered as a cheap imitation of ermine; but the principal uſe made of rabbits fur, is in the manufacture of hats; ſome parts of it, however, which are unfit for that purpoſe, have been found as good as feathers for ſtuffing beds and bolſters.

The Angora rabbit has long hair, waved, and of a ſilky fineneſs, like that of the goat of Angora. The Ruſſian rabbit has a double ſkin over the back, into which it can withdraw its head; and another under the throat, in which it can place its fore feet: in the looſe ſkin on the back it has ſmall holes to admit light to the eyes; the colour of the body is a paliſh yellow, and the head and ears are brown.

Rabbits are ſubject to two principal infirmities; firſt, the rot, which is cauſed by the giving them too large a quantity of greens, or from the giving them freſh gathered, with the dew or rain hanging in drops upon them. It is over moiſture which always cauſes this diſeaſe, the greens, therefore, are always to be given dry, and a ſufficient quantity of hay, or other

other dry food, intermixed with them, to take up the abundant moiſture of their juices. On this account the very beſt food that can be given them, is the ſhorteſt and ſweeteſt hay that can be got.

The other general diſeaſe of theſe creatures is a ſort of madneſs: this may be known by their wallowing and tumbling about with their heels upwards, and hopping in an odd manner into their boxes. This diſtemper is ſuppoſed to be owing to the rankneſs of their feeding; and the general cure is the keeping them low, and giving them the prickly herb called tare thiſtle to eat.

THE BEAVER.

THE beaver is the only animal, among quadrupeds, that has a flat broad tail, covered with ſcales, ſerving as a rudder to direct its motions in the water. It has membranes, or webs, between the toes on the hind feet, but none on the fore feet, which, as in the ſquirrel, ſupply the place of hands. In ſhort, this animal, in its fore parts, entirely reſembles a quadruped, and in its hinder parts approaches the nature of fiſhes, by having a ſcaly tail. It has ſtrong cutting teeth, ſhort ears, almoſt hid in the fur, and a blunt noſe; the hair is of a deep cheſnut brown. Its length from noſe to tail is about three feet; and the tail is about eleven inches long, and three broad. It is ſingular in its conformation, as having, like birds,

birds, but one and the ſame vent for its natural diſcharges.

About the month of June and July, the beavers begin to aſſemble and form a ſociety, which is to continue for the greateſt part of the year. They gather together from all quarters, and uſually form a company of at leaſt two hundred. Where they meet they generally fix their abode, and this is always by the ſide of a lake or river. If it be a lake, and conſequently has no ſtream, they diſpenſe with building a dam; but if it be a river, which is ſubject to floods and falls, they build a dam or pier that croſſes the ſtream, ſo that it forms a dead water in that part which lies above and below. In order to form this pier, they drive ſtakes into the ground, which are about five or ſix feet long, placed in rows, wattling each row with pliant twigs, and filling the interſtices with clay, which they ram down very cloſe. The ſide next the water is ſloped, and the other perpendicular. The bottom is from ten to twelve feet thick; but the thickneſs gradually diminiſhes to the top, which is about two or three. This dam or pier is generally fourſcore or an hundred feet in length. If we compare the greatneſs of the work with the powers of the architect, it will appear enormous; but the ſolidity with which it is built is ſtill more aſtoniſhing than its ſize.

They erect their houſes near the ſhore, in the water collected by means of the dam. They are built on piles, and are either round

or

or oval. The tops are vaulted, and conſequently their inſide reſembles an oven, and the outſide a dome. The walls, which are two feet thick, are made of earth, ſtones, and ſticks, placed together with uncommon art; and the walls within are as neatly plaiſtered as if they were wrought by the trowel of an experienced maſon. There are two openings in each houſe; one into the water, and the other towards the land. The height of theſe houſes above the water is uſually about eight feet. For the convenience of change, in caſe of floods, they frequently make two or three ſtories in each dwelling: from two to thirty beavers inhabit each houſe; and, in each pond, there are from ten to twenty-five houſes. Each beaver prepares its bed of moſs, and every family collects a magazine of winter proviſions, conſiſting of bark and boughs of trees, which they depoſit under water, and bring into their apartments as occaſion may require. In winter they are fondeſt of the ſaſſafras, the aſh, the birch, the plane, and ſweet gum: but, during the ſummer, they are perfect epicures, and daily regale themſelves on the choiceſt plants and fruits which the country affords. Though they are not fond of fiſh in general, they ſometimes feed on crabs and crawfiſh.

In the conſtruction of their buildings, each performs his part. Some gnaw, with their teeth, large pieces of wood as thick as a man's arm, into beams or pillars; others roll the pieces along the water; ſome dive under water,

water, and ſcrape holes in the earth with their feet to receive theſe pillars; while others are buſied in rearing them in their proper places, another party is engaged in collecting twigs to wattle the piles with. Some collect ſtones, earth, and clay; others temper the mortar; and others on their broad tails carry the materials to the places, and, with the ſame inſtrument, ram them between the piles, or plaiſter the inſide of their houſes. They appoint an overſeer in the ſociety, who gives a certain number of ſtrokes with his tail, as a ſignal for repairing to particular places, either for mending defects, or at the approach of an enemy; and the whole company attend to it with the utmoſt aſſiduity. They breed once a year, and bring forth at the latter end of the winter; they have two or three young at a birth.

Beavers vary in their colour: the fineſt are black, but the general colour is a cheſnut brown, more or leſs dark; they have been ſeen white, but not often. Their ſkins are a conſiderable article in trade, being the foundation of the hat manufacture. In 1763, the Hudſon's Bay company ſold fifty-four thouſand ſix hundred and ſeventy beavers' ſkins in one ſale.

The valuable drug caſtoreum is taken from the inguinal glands of theſe animals. The Ruſſian caſtor is ſo much better than the American, that the former ſells for two guineas a pound, and the latter about eight ſhillings and ſixpence; the Ruſſian caſtor being leſs waxy, and

and more eaſily pulveriſed: but though we import this drug from Ruſſia, we export to that country vaſt quantities of beaver-ſkins. Caſtor is reckoned an excellent medicine in all nervous caſes, particularly for hyſteric fits, and many female diſorders.

Beavers inhabit Europe, from Lapland to Languedoc; they are found in great plenty in the North. They are in great plenty in the Ruſſian Aſiatic dominions; but no where in greater multitudes than in North America. The fleſh of theſe animals is reckoned delicate food, being preſerved, after the bones are taken out, by drying in the ſmoke: the tail, however, is eſteemed as the choiceſt dainty.

THE MUSK BEAVER.

THIS animal has a thick blunt noſe, large eyes, and ſhort ears, which are almoſt hid in the fur. The toes on each foot are ſeparated; thoſe behind are fringed on each ſide with ſtrong hair, cloſely ſet together: the tail is compreſſed ſideways, is very thin at the edges, and covered with ſcales, intermixed with a few hairs. The head and body is of a reddiſh brown; and the breaſt and belly aſh-coloured, tinged with red. The fur is very fine; and the length of the body, from noſe to tail, is about twelve inches. The length of the tail is about nine inches, and the form of its body exactly reſembles that of a beaver. Charlevoix calls this animal the muſk rat. It is a native

Porcupine
Brasilian Porcupine
Quebec Marmot

native of North America, and breeds three or four times in a year, bringing forth from three to ſix each time. The fur of this animal is very ſoft, and much eſteemed. The whole body of this creature has an exquiſite muſky ſmell during ſummer, which it loſes in the winter.

THE PORCUPINE.

THE porcupine is about two feet long, and fifteen inches high. It has a long creſt on the top of the head, reclining backwards, formed of ſtiff briſtles: the body is covered with quills from ten to fourteen inches long, and very ſharp at the points. Each quill is thickeſt in the middle, and inſerted into the animal's ſkin, in the ſame manner as feathers grow upon birds: theſe quills are varied with black and white, and between them are a few hairs. The head, belly, and legs, are covered with ſtrong briſtles, terminated with ſoft hair of a duſky colour. Its whiſkers are long, and its ears like human ears. It has four toes before, and five behind: its tail is ſhort, and covered with quills. All the quills of this animal naturally incline backwards like the briſtles of an hog; but when the animal is irritated, they riſe and ſtand erect, like briſtles. The muzzle of this animal bears ſome reſemblance to that of an hare, but it is black; the legs are very ſhort, and the eyes ſmall, like thoſe of an hog, and meaſure only one third of an inch from one corner to the other.

The porcupine partakes much of the nature of the hedge-hog, and, like that animal, has this formidable apparatus of arms rather to defend himſelf, than to annoy the enemy; for the opinion of its being able to dart its quills at its enemies, is now univerſally allowed to be fabulous: they are firmly fixed in the ſkin, and are only ſhed when the animal moults them, as birds do their feathers. Their uſual method of defence is, to lie down on one ſide, and at the approach of an enemy to riſe up ſuddenly, and wound him with the points on the other.

The porcupine is an harmleſs animal, and lives on fruits, roots, and vegetables; but has no objection to meat when it is offered.

Theſe animals live from twelve to fifteen years. The female goes with young ſeven months, and produces but one at a time, which ſhe ſuckles about a month.

The porcupine is eagerly purſued by the Indian hunters, in order to make embroidery of its quills, and to feed on its fleſh.

This animal inhabits India, Perſia, Paleſtine, and every part of Africa: it is found wild in Italy, though not originally a native of Europe. It is brought into the markets of Rome, where it is ſold for food. The Italian porcupines have a ſmaller creſt and ſhorter quills than thoſe of Aſia and Africa.

THE BRASILIAN PORCUPINE.

THIS creature, which is alſo called the couando, is much ſmaller than the creſted porcupine, and its quills are not above a fourth part of the length of thoſe of that animal. It has a ſhort blunt noſe, and long white whiſkers. It inhabits Mexico and Braſil, lives chiefly in the woods, and feeds on fruits and poultry. It ſleeps in the day and ſearches for food in the night. It makes a noiſe with its noſtrils, as if out of breath, and grunts like a hog. It climbs trees, but with no great expedition, and, in deſcending, twiſts its tail (which is pretty long) round the branches to prevent its falling. Like the firſt, it is incapable of ſhooting its quills. This animal grows very fat, and its fleſh is white and good. It is very eaſily tamed, and is a ſpecies very rarely brought into Europe.

THE MARMOT.

THE marmot is almoſt as large as a hare, but it is as corpulent as a cat, and has ſhorter legs. Its head ſomewhat reſembles that of an hare, except that its ears are much ſhorter, and almoſt hid in the fur. The body is cloathed with very long hair, and a ſhorter fur below. Theſe are of different colours, browniſh aſh, mixed with tawny; and the legs and lower part of the body are reddiſh.

This animal has four toes before, and five behind: the length of its body from noſe to tail is about ſixteen inches; and its tail, which is tufted and well furniſhed with hair, is about ſix inches.

The marmot is chiefly a native of the Alps, though it inhabits Poland, Ukraine, and Chineſe Tartary. It feeds indiſcriminately on inſects, roots, and vegetables, but is remarkably fond of milk, and when lapping it, makes a murmuring noiſe, expreſſive of its ſatisfaction. When pleaſed or careſſed, it yelps like a puppy; but, when it is enraged, and before a ſtorm, it has a piercing whiſtle which offends the ear. This is a very cleanly animal, but their bodies have a diſagreeable ſcent, eſpecially in ſummer. Its fleſh is fat and firm, and ſometimes eaten, but the ſcent which is offenſive in the living animal predominates after it is dead.

This creature is tamed without any difficulty, and is readily taught to dance, to wield a cudgel, and to obey the voice of its maſter. Like the cat, it has an antipathy to the dog; and, when it becomes familiar to the family, and is ſure of being countenanced by its maſter, it will even attack a maſtiff; but, except in this particular, it is a very inoffenſive animal; and, unleſs it is provoked, ſeems to live in friendſhip with every creature. It is, however, very apt to gnaw furniture or linen, and even to make holes through wooden partitions. As its legs are very ſhort, and have ſome ſimilitude to thoſe of the bear, it will, like that animal,

mal, frequently ſit up and walk upon its hind legs. Like the ſquirrel, it carries the food to its mouth with the fore-paws, and ſits upon its hinder parts to feed. The marmot is uſually taken to be ſhewn, eſpecially by the Savoyards, who inſtruct them to perform a great variety of tricks to entertain the ſpectators.

But what particularly diſtinguiſhes the marmot from every other quadruped, except the bat and the dormouſe, is its ſleeping during the winter. Though a native of the higheſt mountains, and where the ſnow is never wholly melted, it ſeems to feel the influence of the cold more than any other animal; and in winter its faculties are abſolutely chilled up. About the end of September, or the beginning of October, the marmot prepares its habitation for the winter, from which it never departs till April. This retreat is an hole on the ſide of a mountain, extremely deep, with a ſpacious apartment at the bottom, which is ſomewhat longer than it is broad. Several marmots reſide in this habitation at the ſame time, without incommoding each other, or injuring the air they breathe. The form of the hole reſembles a Y; the two branches being two openings, which lead into one channel that terminates in their general apartment at the bottom. The hole being made on the declivity of a mountain, one of the openings iſſues out ſloping downwards, ſerving as a kind of drain or ſink to the whole family: the other opening, on the contrary, ſlopes upwards,

wards, and anſwers the purpoſe of a door. The apartment at the end is lined with moſs and hay, of which they take care to make an ample proviſion during ſummer. This being a work of great labour, it is undertaken in common; ſome gather the graſs, and others, in their turn, drag it into their hole.

In this retreat they all live together, after they have, with their united labours, made it as convenient as they can: there they remain when the ſtorm is high, when it rains, or when they are apprehenſive of danger. They never ſtir from their chamber but in fine weather, and then they never wander far from their habitation. When they venture from home, one of them is placed upon a lofty rock as a ſentinel, while the reſt are diverting themſelves, or are employed in providing for their winter's convenience. When an enemy approaches, this truſty ſentinel acquaints his companions with a whiſtle, when they all run immediately home, the ſentinel bringing up the rear.

It muſt not be imagined that the hay is intended for proviſion; nature has kindly apprized them that during the winter they ſhall not want any; therefore they make no preparations for food, but employ themſelves diligently to render their apartment commodious. When they perceive the firſt approaches of winter, they cloſe up the two entrances of their habitation, which they perform with ſuch ſolidity, that it is eaſier to dig up the earth in any

Flying Squirrel
Lapland Marmot
Casan Marmot

any other part, than where they have cloſed it. At this time they are very fat, and continue ſo for two or three months; after which their fleſh gradually diminiſhes, and by the end of the winter they are uſually very lean. When their retreat is opened, the whole family is ſeen, each rolled into a ball, and covered with the hay. In this torpid ſtate they appear entirely lifeleſs, and when they are taken from their habitation, they appear inſenſible, except they are brought before a fire, which ſoon revives them; but they would die if they were too ſuddenly brought before a large fire.

Theſe animals produce but once a year, and bring forth two or three at a time: the extent of their lives is about nine or ten years.

THE CASAN MARMOT.

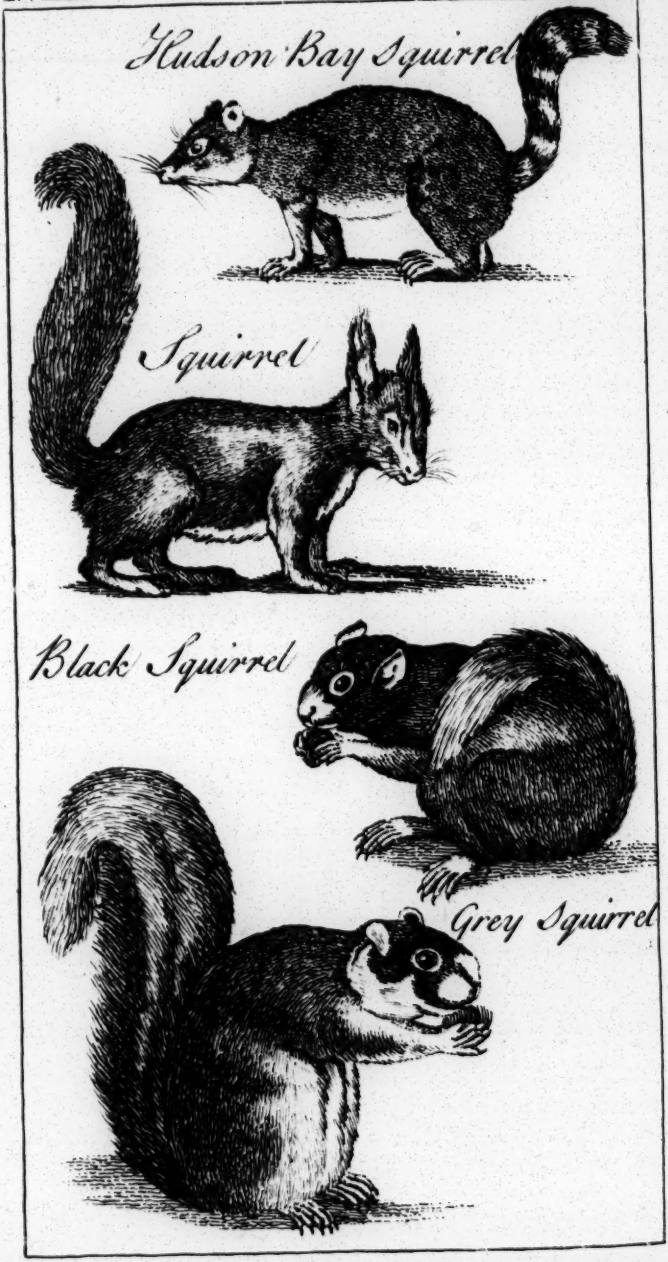
IT is about the ſize of a rat, and has ſhort round ears. The hair is ſmooth, and of a yellowiſh brown, with faintiſh round ſpots of white. It has four toes before and five behind; and the tail is about half the length of the body. Theſe animals are exceſſive fond of ſalt, and vaſt quantities of them are taken on board the barges that load with that commodity at Solikamſky, and fall down into the Volga, below Caſan.

THE LAPLAND MARMOT.

THIS animal has a pointed head, with two very long cutting teeth in each jaw. Its upper lip is divided; it has ſmall black eyes, a little mouth, long whiſkers, and ſmall blunt ears, reclining backwards. Its legs are very ſhort, and it has four ſlender toes, covered with hair on the fore feet, and five toes on thoſe behind: the body and head are about five inches long, and the tail half an inch. The body and head are black and tawny, diſpoſed in irregular blotches, and the belly is of a yellowiſh white.

Theſe animals appear in immenſe quantities at uncertain periods in Norway and Lapland. They deſtroy almoſt every blade and root of graſs, and ſpread univerſal deſolation: they even infect the ground, and cattle are ſaid to periſh which taſte the graſs that they have touched. They march in legions, and neither fire, lakes, nor torrents, can ſtop their progreſs. They bend their courſe ſtraight forward, and ſwim over the lakes and rivers. They are ſo fierce as not to be intimidated in their career, and if a ſtick is preſented to them, they will take hold of it, and ſuffer themſelves to be ſwung about before they will quit their hold. If they are ſtruck, they bark like a dog, and turn about and bite. They are the prey of foxes, lynxes, and ermines, who follow them in troops. At length they periſh through want

of


Hudson Bay Squirrel
Squirrel
Black Squirrel
Grey Squirrel

of food, or deſtroy each other; or they are loſt in the ſea, or ſome great water.

THE SQUIRREL.

THIS animal is ſo well known as hardly to require any deſcription; but ſuppoſing it unknown to any, we might convey ſome idea of its form by comparing it to a rabbit, obſerving that it has ſhorter ears and a longer tail. Its ears are alſo terminated with long tufts of hair. The colour of the head, body, tail, and legs of this animal, is a bright reddiſh brown; the belly and breaſt white; the eyes are large, black, and lively; the fore teeth ſtrong, ſharp, and well adapted to its food; the legs are ſhort and muſcular; the toes long, and divided to their origin; the nails are ſharp and ſtrong. In ſhort, the animal, in all reſpects, is fitted for climbing or clinging to the ſmalleſt boughs. It has but four toes on the fore feet, and a claw in the place of a thumb or interior toe: there are five toes on the hind feet. The tail of the ſquirrel is alone ſufficient to diſtinguiſh it from any other animal, as it is extremely long, beautiful, and buſhy, ſpreading like a fan, and, when thrown up behind, ſerves to cover the whole body. When erected, it alſo ſerves the little animal as an umbrella, to defend it from the injuries of heat and cold; and, when extended, it is extremely ſerviceable in taking thoſe vaſt leaps that the ſquirrel takes from tree

tree to tree. It indeed anſwers another purpoſe: we are aſſured by Kleim, Scheffar, and Linnæus, that when the ſquirrel is diſpoſed to croſs a river, a piece of bark is its boat, and its tail anſwers the purpoſe of a ſail.

The ſquirrel is neither carnivorous nor deſtructive; and its common food is nuts, fruits, buds, and acorns. It is cleanly, nimble, active, and induſtrious. Like the hare and rabbit, it ſits upon its hinder legs, uſing the fore paws as hands. The ſquirrel ſeldom deſcends to the ground, except during a ſtorm, but jumps from one branch of a tree to another. This provident little animal never leaves its food to chance, but in ſummer, which is the ſeaſon of plenty, it ſecures in ſome hollow tree a vaſt magazine of nuts for winter proviſion.

The ſquirrel never appears in the open fields, nor in the coppices or underwoods. It always keeps among the talleſt trees, and avoids as much as poſſible the habitations of men. It makes its neſt of moſs and dried leaves, between the fork of two branches, and brings three or four young at a time. It has two holes to its neſt, and always ſtops up that on the ſide the wind blows. It is extremely vigilant, and if any perſon ſhould touch the bottom of the tree in which it reſides, the ſquirrel immediately takes the alarm, flies away to another tree, and travels with great eaſe along the tops of the foreſt, till it is perfectly out of danger. It uſually moves by bounds or leaps, and with great facility paſſes from one tree to another at the diſtance of forty feet; and when

when it is compelled to deſcend, it runs up the ſide of another tree with amazing agility. It uſually expreſſes pain by a ſharp piercing note, and has another note, expreſſive of its pleaſure or ſatisfaction, not much unlike the purring of a cat.

The ſquirrel is eaſily tamed, and becomes a very familiar animal. It delights in warmth, and frequently creeps into a man's pocket, or his boſom. It is uſually kept in a box, and fed with hazle-nuts, &c. and is a pleaſing little domeſtic. This animal inhabits Europe, North America, and the northern and the temperate parts of Aſia. In Sweden and Lapland the colour changes into grey in winter. In Ruſſia and Lapland black ſquirrels are ſometimes found; and in many parts of England there is a beautiful variety with milk-white tails.

THE GREY SQUIRREL.

THE hair of this animal is of a dull grey colour, mixed with black, and ſometimes tinged with yellow: the belly and the inſides of the legs are white; the ears are plain, the tail is long, buſhy, and grey, with black ſtripes. This animal is about the ſize of an half-grown rabbit. It inhabits the woods of Northern Aſia, North America, Peru, and Chili. Theſe animals abound in North America, where they do incredible damage to the plantations of maize, by running up the ſtalks, and eating the young ears. A reward of three-pence per head

head is allowed by the provinces for every one that is killed; and Pennſylvania alone paid in rewards eight thouſand pounds of its currency for what was deſtroyed in one year. Theſe animals make their neſts in hollow trees, with moſs, ſtraw, wool, &c. They feed on maize, pine-cones, acorns, and maſt of all kinds. They run up and down the trunks of trees, but ſeldom leap from branch to branch. In many particulars they have the actions of the common ſquirrel, and are very eaſily tamed. The fleſh of this ſquirrel is reckoned very delicate.

THE BLACK SQUIRREL.

THIS animal is ſometimes entirely black, but is generally marked with white on the noſe, the neck, or the tip of the tail. It has plain ears, and its tail is ſhorter than that of the grey ſquirrel, though its body is about an equal length. It is found in Aſia, North America, and Mexico.

THE GROUND SQUIRREL.

THE noſe and feet of this animal are of a pale red; the eyes are full, and the ears plain. The ridge of the back is marked with a black ſtreak, and each ſide with a pale yellow ſtripe, bounded above and below with a line of black. The head, body, and tail, are of a reddiſh brown, and the breaſt and belly white. It in-

habits the north of Aſia, and is found in great abundance in the foreſts of North America. Theſe animals never run up trees, except they are purſued, and cannot eſcape by any other means. They burrow, and form their habitations under ground, with two avenues, that they may get acceſs to one if the other is ſtopped up. Theſe animals bite ſeverely, and are ſo extremely wild, that it is hardly poſſible to tame them. Their ſkins are of very little value; but they are ſometimes uſed for the lining of cloaks.

THE DORMOUSE.

THIS animal agrees with the ſquirrel in its food, reſidence, and ſome of its actions. It has round naked ears, full black eyes, and a white throat. It is about the ſize of a mouſe, but plumper, and its body is of a tawny red. Its tail is two inches and a half long, and pretty hairy, eſpecially towards the end. It inhabits woods or thick hedges, forming its neſt in the hollow of ſome low tree, or near the bottom of a cloſe ſhrub. As it wants much of the ſprightlineſs of the ſquirrel, it never aſpires to the tops of trees, or to ſport among the branches.

Like the ſquirrel, towards the approach of the cold ſeaſon, they form a little magazine of nuts, beans, or acorns, for winter proviſion; and they take their food in the ſame manner, and in the ſame upright poſture as that animal. The conſumption of their hoard, during the ri-

gour of the winter, is but ſmall, for they ſleep the greateſt part of the time; they retire into their holes, roll themſelves up in a ball, and lie almoſt torpid the greateſt part of that gloomy ſeaſon.

Their neſts are made of moſs, graſs, and dead leaves; they uſually bring forth three or four at a time, and that but once a year, which is in the ſpring.

THE SAILING SQUIRREL.

THIS animal has a ſmall rounded head, ſmall blunt ears, a ſhort neck, a cloven upper lip, and two ſmall warts at the corner of each eye, with hairs growing on them. It has four toes on the fore feet, and, inſtead of a thumb, a ſlender bone, two inches and a half long, lodged under the lateral membrane, ſerving to ſtretch it out. From thence to the hind legs extend the membrane, which is broad, and a continuation of the ſkin of the ſides and belly. On the hind feet it has five toes, with a ſharp bending claw on each. The tail is covered with long hair, diſpoſed horizontally. The colour of the head, body, and tail, is a bright bay, inclining to orange in ſome parts. The breaſt and belly are of a yellowiſh white. The length of this animal, from the noſe to the tail, is about eighteen inches, and the tail fifteen. It inhabits Java and ſome other Indian iſlands, leaps from tree to tree as if it flew, and catches hold of the boughs with its tail. Nieuhoff deſcribes this ſpecies under the name of the flying cat.

THE

THE FLYING SQUIRREL.

THIS little animal, which is frequently brought over to England, is leſs than a common ſquirrel, and larger than a field mouſe. Its ſkin is very ſoft, and elegantly adorned with a dark fur in ſome parts of the body, and a light grey in others. It has round naked ears, large prominent ſparkling eyes, and very ſharp teeth, with which it gnaws any thing very expeditiouſly. It has a lateral membrane extending from the fore to the hind legs, and its tail is covered with long hair, diſpoſed horizontally. When it does not leap its tail lies cloſe to its back, but when it takes its ſpring, the tail moves backwards and forwards from ſide to ſide. This animal, at a ſingle bound, will dart from one tree to another at above twenty yards diſtance; but it ſinks conſiderably before it can reach the place it aims at; ſenſible of this, it mounts the higher in proportion to the diſtance it intends to reach. It is aſſiſted in this ſpring by a very peculiar formation of the ſkin of the membrane, which extends from the fore feet to the hinder, ſo that when it ſtretches its fore legs forward, and its hind legs backward, this ſkin is extended between them, ſomewhat like that between the legs of a bat. Thus the little animal keeps buoyant in the air till the force of its firſt impulſe is expired, and then it deſcends.

The flying ſquirrel, however, does not move like a bird, by repeated ſtrokes of its

wings, but rather in the manner of a paper kite, ſupported by the expanſion of the ſurface of its body.

This animal inhabits Finland, Lapland, Poland, Ruſſia, North America, and New Spain. It is not, like moſt other ſquirrels, fond of almonds or nuts, its favourite food being the ſprouts of the birch, and the cones of the pine. When in its tame ſtate, it is fed with bread and fruits, and generally ſleeps by day, though it is very ſprightly and agile in the night. Theſe animals uſually bring forth three or four young at a time, and live in hollow trees.

THE JERBOA.

THE jerboa has dark full eyes, long whiſkers, and broad erect ears. It is about the ſize of a large rat, and its head ſomewhat reſembles that of a rabbit. It has two cutting teeth in each jaw, and a tail about ten inches long, terminated with a black tuft of hair, the tip of which is white, and the reſt of the tail covered with very ſhort coarſe hair. The head, back, ſides, and thighs, are covered with long ſoft hair, aſh-coloured at the bottom, and of a pale tawny at the ends; the breaſt and belly being whitiſh; but the legs of this animal more particularly deſerve our attention; the fore legs are not above an inch long, having five toes on each, the inner or thumb being hardly viſible, but that, as well as the reſt, is furniſhed with a ſharp claw; the hinder legs are two inches and a quar-

Gerboa.
Radiated Mole.
Long-tailed Mole.
Hedge-hog.

a quarter long, covered with ſhort hair, and exactly reſembling thoſe of a bird, there being but three toes, of which that in the middle is the longeſt, and on each of them there is a ſharp claw.

This animal inhabits Egypt, Barbary, Paleſtine, and the deſerts between Balſora and Aleppo. It is as ſingular in its motions as in its form; it always ſtands or walks on its hind legs only, while the fore paws, like thoſe of a ſquirrel, perform the offices of hands, and convey its food to its mouth. When diſturbed or purſued, they are often ſeen to jump ſix or ſeven feet from the ground, and to move ſo ſwiftly, that hardly any other quadruped is able to overtake them. They are a lively inoffenſive race of animals, feeding entirely upon vegetables, and burrowing in the ground like rabbits. In 1770, two of them were ſhewn in London, which burrowed almoſt through the brick wall of the room in which they were kept.

Sir Joſeph Banks brought home the ſkin of an animal, which he calls the kanguroo, which, from its general outline, and the moſt ſtriking peculiarity of its figure, greatly reſembles the jerboa, yet it entirely differs in ſize, and in many of thoſe minute diſtinctions which point out the general ranks of nature. The kanguroo is often known to weigh above fifty pounds,

The SIBERIAN JERBOA.

THE ears of this animal are very long, narrow, and tranſparent, and it has long whiſkers; each of the fore feet has five toes, and each of the hind feet three pointing forward, and a fourth behind, about an inch above the heel. The upper part of the body is of a tawny colour, and the lower whitiſh. In the form of the body, legs, and tail, it reſembles the laſt. It inhabits Siberia, and, like the former, is very active.

It is a provident little animal, and prepares againſt winter. It cuts graſs, and leaves it in little heaps to dry, and afterwards carries it into the burrow, where it not only ſerves for food, but makes the habitation warm for its young during the rigours of winter.

The INDIAN JERBOA

HAS a ſlender noſe, eyes large and prominent; ears broad, erect, naked, ſemipellucid, and about an inch and an half long, with a tuft of hair between them. It has two ſlender cutting teeth, and two canine teeth in each jaw. Like the ape, it has four long ſlender toes, and a diſtinct thumb on each foot; the claws are ſharp-pointed, but they are all attached to the ſkin, except on the two interior toes of the hind feet. The thumbs of the hind feet are broad, and greatly dilated at their ends; the hair

hair on the legs and feet is ſhort, white, and thinly ſcattered; the tail is almoſt naked, and that part next the body is round and ſcaly like that of a rat. The length of this animal from the noſe to the tail is about ſix inches, and to the hind toes eleven inches and an half. The hair is ſoft, and of an aſh colour mixed with tawny. It is an inhabitant of India. Dr. Hunter has a ſpecimen of this animal in his cabinet, which anſwers to this deſcription.

THE COMMON RAT.

OF all our ſmaller quadrupeds, the rat is the moſt pernicious. Our meat, corn, paper, clothes, furniture, and every conveniency of life, is a prey to this deſtructive animal; and it makes equal havock on our poultry, rabbits, or young game. It is to be lamented that it is a domeſtic animal, always reſiding in houſes, barns, or granaries; and nature has furniſhed it with ſuch very ſtrong fore teeth, that it can force its way through the hardeſt wood or the oldeſt mortar; it makes an habitation either for its temporary reſidence, or for a neſt for its young, in a hole near a chimney; when it is intended for a neſt, it improves the warmth of it, by forming a magazine of bits of cloth, hay, ſtraw, or wool.

This animal breeds ſeveral times in the year, and uſually brings forth ſix or ſeven young at a time. This ſpecies frequently overſtock their abode by their fecundity, which obliges them, through

through deficiency of food, to devour each other. Happily for us, this unnatural diſpoſition prevents even the human race from becoming a prey to them; though indeed there are ſome inſtances of their gnawing infants in their ſleep.

The common enemy of the rat is the weaſel, which makes infinitely more deſtruction among them than the cat; the weaſel having more agility, and, from the ſlender form of its body, being enabled to purſue them through all their retreats, which the former cannot. The Norway rat has greatly reduced their numbers, and in many places almoſt extirpated them.

Though the common rat is an animal ſo univerſally known, a brief deſcription of it may be excuſed. The length, from the noſe to the tail, is about ſeven inches long, and the tail near eight inches; the noſe, which is ſharp-pointed, is furniſhed with long whiſkers; the colour of the head, and the whole upper part of the body, is a deep iron grey, bordering on black; the throat and belly are of a dirty white, inclining to grey; the feet and legs are almoſt naked, and of a dirty pale fleſh colour; the tail is covered with ſmall duſky ſcales, mixed with a few hairs, which adds to the general deformity of its deteſtable figure. The fore feet want the thumb or interior toe, having only a claw in its place; the hind feet are furniſhed with five toes.

This animal was firſt introduced into America by the Europeans, and into South America about the year 1544, when Blaſco Nunnez was the

the viceroy: it is now become the peſt of all that continent. It was formerly ſo great a nuiſance, that the King of England had a rat-catcher belonging to his houſehold, which is continued in office to this day by his Britannic majeſty, diſtinguiſhed in a peculiar manner by his dreſs, which is ſcarlet, embroidered with yellow worſted, decorated with the figures of mice deſtroying wheat-ſheaves.

THE NORWAY RAT.

THIS animal never made its appearance in England till about forty years ago. It burrows in the banks of rivers, ponds, and ditches; takes the water very readily, and ſwims and dives with great celerity. It forms its holes very near the edge of the water, where it chiefly reſides during the ſummer, and feeds upon ſmall animals, fiſh, and corn. When the winter approaches, it comes nearer the farm-houſes, and burrows in their corn, where it conſumes much, but deſtroys more. It deſtroys rabbits, poultry, and all kinds of game; and hardly any of the feebler animals can eſcape its rapacity, except the mouſe, which ſhelters itſelf in its little hole, that cannot receive an animal ſo large as the Norway rat.

Theſe animals produce from fourteen to eighteen young at a time.

The head, back, and ſides of this animal are of a light brown colour, mixed with tawny and aſh colour; the breaſt and belly are of a dirty

dirty white; the feet naked, and of a dirty fleſh colour; the fore feet are furniſhed with four toes, and a claw inſtead of the fifth. Its length, from the noſe to the tail, is about nine inches, and the tail the ſame. It is principally in colour that it differs from the black rat, or what was once called the common rat, which is now no longer common.

The great increaſe of theſe animals would overrun the whole country in a ſhort time, did they not deſtroy each other. The large male rat uſually keeps in a hole by itſelf, and is dreaded by its own ſpecies as the moſt formidable of enemies.

All the ſtronger carnivorous animals have natural antipathies againſt the rat. The dog, though he deteſts their fleſh, purſues them with alacrity, and attacks them with great animoſity. Such as are accuſtomed to killing theſe vermin, diſpatch them with a ſingle ſqueeze; but thoſe which ſhew any heſitation are ſure to be ſufferers, the rat always taking the advantage of a moment's delay, and, inſtead of waiting for the attack, becomes the aggreſſor, and ſeizes its enemy by the lip, often inflicting a very dangerous wound.

Another enemy of theſe animals is the cat; and yet many of them are unwilling to attack the rat, or to feed upon it when killed. Some of them indeed will purſue and ſeize the rat, though they often meet with an obſtinate reſiſtance. If very hungry, the cat will ſometimes eat the head, but it is generally ſatisfied with its victory alone. The weaſel is a much more

dangerous

dangerous foe to theſe vermin; but man has contrived a variety of methods of deſtroying theſe noxious intruders.

The rat being ſo pernicious a creature, we ſhall add the following receipt, ſaid to be effectual for deſtroying thoſe diſagreeable vermin. This preparation has the ſanction of the Dublin Society, who, on the 19th of November 1762, ordered a premium of five guineas to one Laurence O'Hara for the diſcovery, which is, "One quart of oatmeal, four drops of rhodium, one grain of muſk, and two nuts of nux vomica, finely raſped." This mixture is to be made up in pellets, and laid in the holes and places which the rats frequent.

THE WATER RAT.

THIS animal is about the ſame ſize with the latter, but has a larger head, a blunter noſe, and ſmaller eyes; its ears are very ſhort, and almoſt hid in the fur, and the tip of its tail is whitiſh; the head and back are covered with long black hair, and that on the belly is of an iron grey. The length of this animal, from the noſe to the tail, is ſeven inches, and the tail is about five. This creature is very expert in ſwimming and diving. It inhabits Europe and North America; but never frequents houſes, being uſually found on the banks of rivers, ditches, and ponds, where it burrows and breeds, and generally brings forth about ſix young at a time. It feeds on frogs, ſmall fiſh, roots,

roots, and insects, and is itself the prey of the pike.

THE COMMON MOUSE.

THIS timid, cautious, active, little animal is entirely domestic. Indeed all its motions appear to be regulated by fear and necessity; to seek provisions is its only inducement to leave its hole, and it seldom ventures farther than a few paces from its home.

No animal has more enemies than the mouse, and few are so incapable of resistance. The cat, the snake, the hawk, the owl, the weasel, and the rat, destroy this race by millions, and were it not for their amazing fecundity, they must long have been extirpated. The mouse breeds at all seasons, and several times in the year, and usually produces six or seven young at a time, which in less than a fortnight are able to run abroad and shift for themselves. The early perfection of this animal implies the short duration of its life, which seldom exceeds two or three years.

This animal is too well known to require any farther description. It inhabits all parts of the world, except the Arctic. This species is often found of a pure white, in which state it makes a most beautiful appearance, the full bright eye appearing to great advantage amidst the snowy colour of the fur. The root of white hellebore and staves acre, powdered and mixed with meal, will infallibly poison them.

THE

THE LONG-TAILED FIELD MOUSE.

THE length of this animal, from the noſe to the tail, is about four inches and an half, and the tail four inches; the eyes are black, large, and full; the ears are prominent; the head, back, and ſides, of a yellowiſh brown, mixed with ſome duſky hairs; the breaſt is of an ochre colour, and the belly white; and the tail is ſlightly covered with ſhort hair. Theſe animals are found only in fields and gardens, where they feed on ants, acorns, and corn. The neſt that they provide for their young is generally very near the ſurface, and frequently in a thick tuft of graſs. They uſually produce from ſeven to ten at a time.

THE SHORT-TAILED FIELD MOUSE.

THIS animal, as its name implies, has a much ſhorter tail than the former, not exceeding an inch and an half, and ending in a ſmall tuft. The length of this ſpecies, from the noſe to the tail, is about ſix inches. Its colour is inclining to that of the domeſtic mouſe, the upper part being blackiſh, and the belly of a deep aſh colour. This animal makes its neſt in moiſt meadows, and produces from ſix to eight at a time. It lives on nuts, acorns, and corn, and forms a magazine of proviſions againſt winter.

The HARVEST MOUSE.

THE eyes of this animal are leſs prominent than thoſe of the former, the upper part of the body is of an iron colour, the lower part white, a ſtraight line along the ſides dividing the colours; the tail is a little hairy; the length of the body, from the noſe to the tail, is two inches and an half, and the length of the tail about two inches. Theſe animals are found in great plenty in Hampſhire during the time of harveſt; but they never enter houſes. Many of them are carried into the ricks of corn in the ſheaves, and, on breaking up the ricks, ſome hundreds of them are ſometimes killed. In winter they ſhelter themſelves under ground, where they burrow very deep, and form a comfortable bed of dead graſs. The neſts for their young are made above ground, between the ſtraws of ſtanding corn. They bring forth about eight young at a time.

The SHREW MOUSE.

THE ſhrew mouſe is about the ſize of the domeſtic mouſe, but differing greatly from it in the form of its noſe, which is very long and ſlender. The teeth are twenty-eight in number, and the two upper fore teeth are extremely ſharp, with a kind of wing or beard on each ſide of them, reſembling that of an arrow, which is ſcarcely viſible but on a cloſe inſpection; the other

other teeth are very ſmall, and placed ſo cloſe together, as hardly to appear ſeparated. The length of this little animal, from the noſe to the tail, is about two inches and an half, and the length of the tail about one inch and an half; the ears are ſhort and rounded; the eyes are extremely ſmall, and, like thoſe of the mole, almoſt concealed in the hair; the colour of the head and back is of a browniſh duſky red, and the belly of a dirty white; the tail is covered with ſhort duſky hair; the legs are very ſhort and the feet are divided into five diſtinct toes.

The ſhrew mouſe inhabits Europe, lives in old walls, holes in the earth, or among heaps of ſtones, and is frequently found in or near out-buildings, hay-ricks, and dung-hills; it lives on corn, inſects, and filth of any kind. It is a very harmleſs little creature, doing ſcarcely any injury, as it feeds more upon inſects than corn, and may be conſidered rather as a friend than an enemy to mankind.

THE MOLE.

THE mole is formed to live wholly under the earth, as if nature meant that no place ſhould be left entirely untenanted. It is of a ſize between the rat and the mouſe, but does not reſemble either, being an animal of a very ſingular kind, and very different from any other quadruped. It is clothed with fine ſhort gloſſy black hair; its noſe is long and pointed,

like that of a hog, but much longer in proportion; inſtead of external ears, it has only holes, and its eyes are ſo very ſmall that it is extremely difficult to diſcover them.

To compenſate, however, for the dimneſs of the ſight, the mole enjoys two other ſenſes in the higheſt perfection, thoſe of hearing and ſmelling; the firſt gives it the moſt early notice of the approach of danger, the other, in the midſt of darkneſs, directs it to find its food. The noſe alſo, being long and ſlender, is well adapted for thruſting into ſmall holes in ſearch of worms and other inſects that inhabit them. When it has buried itſelf in the earth, it ſeldom ſtirs out unleſs compelled by violent rains, or when in purſuit of its prey it comes too near the ſurface, and gets into the open air, which may be conſidered as its unnatural element. It uſually chooſes the ſofter grounds, as it can travel through them with leſs labour, and as the greateſt number of worms and inſects, on which it preys, are to be found there.

This animal has ſix cutting teeth in the upper, and eight in the lower jaw, with two canine in each. It has ſo tough a ſkin that it is difficult to cut through it; the fur is ſhort, cloſe ſet, and ſofter than the fineſt velvet. Though uſually black, it is ſometimes found ſpotted, and ſometimes quite white. This animal is about five inches and three quarters long, and the tail one inch.

The mole breeds in the ſpring, and brings forth four or five young at a time. Its neſt is made of moſs under the largeſt hillocks, a little above the ſurface of the ground.

The

The mole does great damage in gardens and meadows, by throwing up the ſoil and looſening the roots of plants; it is moſt active before rain, and in winter before a thaw, the worm being then in motion. The mole ſhews great dexterity in ſkinning a worm, which it always does before it eats it, ingeniouſly ſtripping off the ſkin from one end to the other. It is remarkable, though we are aſſured it is ſtrictly true, that theſe animals are not to be found in Ireland.

THE SIBERIAN MOLE.

IT has a very ſhort noſe, no ears, and three toes on the fore feet, with a very large claw on the outer toe. It has four toes on the hinder feet; its body is of an equal thickneſs, and its rump quite round. It is of a beautiful green and gold colour, variable with the light. It has no tail, and is a native of Siberia.

THE RADIATED MOLE.

THIS animal has ſmall fore legs, with five long white claws on each; the noſe is long, and the edges are beſet with radiated tendrils. The hair on the body is very ſhort and fine, and of a duſky colour; the hinder legs are ſcaly, and it has five toes on each foot. The length of this animal, from the noſe to the tail, is about three inches and three quarters, and the tail, which is ſlender and taper, is about

an inch and a quarter long. It inhabits North America, and feeds on roots.

THE HEDGE-HOG.

THE head, back, and ſides of this animal are covered with long ſharp ſpines or prickles; the noſe, breaſt, and belly, are clothed with a fine ſoft hair; the legs are ſhort, almoſt naked, and of a duſky colour; the ears are broad, round, and naked; the eyes are ſmall, and placed high in the head; the mouth alſo is ſmall, but well furniſhed with teeth; ſerving, however, only to chew its food, but of little uſe in attacking other animals, or defending itſelf againſt them. The toes on each foot are five in number, long and ſeparated; the prickles, which are about an inch in length, are very ſharp-pointed; their points are white, the middle black, and the lower part white. The tail is little more than an inch long, and ſo concealed by the ſpines as hardly to be viſible. The length of this animal, from the noſe to the tail, is about ten inches.

When rolled up in a lump, the hedge-hog patiently waits till his enemy paſſes by, or is fatigued with fruitleſs attempts to annoy it. The cat, the weaſel, the ferret, and the martin, ſoon decline the combat, and even the dog generally makes his attacks in vain; he may bark, and roll the animal about with his paws, but the hedge-hog ſubmits patiently to every indignity, in order to remain ſecure. At length the

Sloth

the dog, after expreſſing his chagrin by barking, leaves the inoffenſive animal where he found it, who, perceiving itſelf out of danger, ventures to peep out from its ball, and if not interrupted, makes the beſt of its way to its retreat.

Like moſt of the wild animals, the hedge-hog ſleeps by day, and is in motion during the night. It feeds on roots, fruits, worms, and inſects. It uſually reſides in ſmall thickets, in hedges, and at the bottom of ditches covered with buſhes, where it makes a hole of about ſix or eight inches deep, and lies well wrapped up in moſs, graſs, or leaves, and, during winter, rolls itſelf up, and ſleeps out that dreary ſeaſon.

THE SLOTH.

THERE are two different kinds of the ſloth, diſtinguiſhed from each other by their claws; the one having only two claws upon each foot, and being without a tail; the other having a tail, and three claws upon each foot: the former in its native country is called the unau, and the latter the ai.

From the latter, which differs from the other chiefly in the trifling particulars above-mentioned, and in being ſomewhat more active, we ſhall take our deſcription. It is about the ſize of a badger, its fur is coarſe and irregular, and in ſome degree reſembles dried graſs; the tail is ſo ſhort as to be little more than a ſtump; the mouth extends from ear to ear; it has a blunt

blunt black noſe, very ſmall external ears, and ſmall heavy black eyes; its legs are thick and awkwardly placed; the colour of the face and throat is a dirty white; the body and limbs are covered with hair of a lightiſh brown colour. The feet of this animal proceed from the body in ſuch an oblique direction, that the ſole of the foot ſeldom touches the ground; when it is therefore obliged to make a ſtep forward, it ſcrapes on the back of the nails along the ſurface, and thus wheeling the limbs circularly about, it at length places its foot in a progreſſive poſition; the other three limbs are brought about with equal difficulty; and thus it travels at the rate of about three yards in an hour. The poor creature indeed ſeldom changes place but by conſtraint, and when ſtrongly impelled by hunger.

The ſloth inhabits many parts of the eaſtern ſide of South America. It is the meaneſt, the moſt ſluggiſh, and the moſt ill-formed of all animals. It lives entirely upon vegetable food, particularly on the leaves and fruit of trees; and in leſs than a fortnight it generally ſtrips a large tree of all its verdure.

It is with the utmoſt pain and difficulty that this animal aſcends a tree, but it is utterly unable to deſcend in the ſame manner; it therefore forms itſelf into a ball and drops from the branches to the ground; there it remains for ſome time inactive, and then prepares for a journey to ſome neighbouring tree in ſearch of freſh proviſions. This is the moſt tedious and painful journey that can be conceived; to travel to a tree

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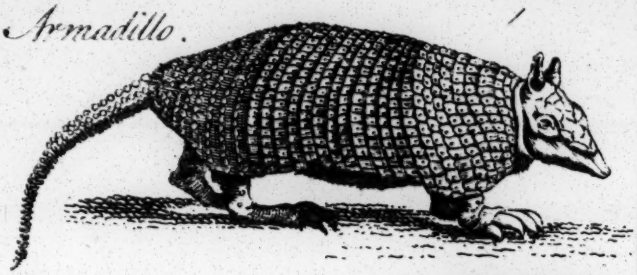
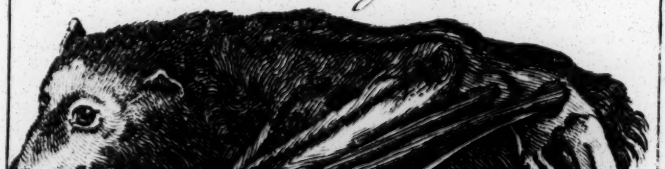
Armadillo.



New York Bat.

Great Madagascar Bat.



a tree at a hundred yards diſtance is the indefatigable labour of a week. At every effort to move it ſets forth a moſt plaintive and melancholy cry, which at once produces pity and diſguſt. This plaintive ſound, however, appears to be its chief defence, for every beaſt of prey is ſo affected by the noiſe as to quit it with horror.

The look of this animal is ſo piteous as to excite compaſſion; and its cry is generally accompanied with tears, which diſſuade every creature from injuring ſo wretched a being. Its abſtinence from food is ſo powerful, that one of them was known to remain forty days without meat or drink. The ſtrength of its feet is ſo extraordinary, that whatever it ſeizes on cannot eſcape its claws. Kircher informs us, that a ſloth ſeized a dog with its feet, and held him four days in that ſituation, till the poor animal periſhed with hunger.

The unan, or ſloth with two toes, inhabits South America and the iſle of Ceylon.

THE ARMADILLO.

THE armadillo is covered, like a tortoiſe, with a ſhell, or rather a number of ſhells, therefore its other proportions are not eaſily diſcerned. At the firſt view, it ſeems a round miſhapen maſs, with a long head, and a ſhortiſh tail. It is of various ſizes, from a foot to three feet in length, and covered with a ſhell elegantly and regularly divided into ſeveral pieces, which lap

lap over each other like thoſe on the tail of a lobſter. This ſhell, which perfectly reſembles a bony ſubſtance, covers the head, neck, ſides, and rump, and the tail to the very point; the throat, breaſt, and belly are covered with a white ſoft ſkin. The ſhell, however, is divided into ſeveral pieces, each connected with the other by a membrane, ſo that the animal can move in any direction.

In different kinds theſe ſhells are differently coloured, but they are principally of a dirty grey.

Whenever the armadillo perceives itſelf attacked, it draws its head under its ſhells, leaving no part of it to be ſeen but the tip of the noſe: if the danger increaſes, the cautions of the animal increaſe in proportion; it then draws up its feet under its belly, and unites the two extremities, while the tail appears as a band to ſtrengthen the connection: thus it forms itſelf into a kind of ball, though it is a little flattiſh on each ſide. It thus becomes invulnerable, and continues in this poſition as long as danger ſeems to threaten it, and ſometimes for a conſiderable time afterwards. While it remains in this ſituation, it is toſſed about at the pleaſure of every other quadruped, and has very little the appearance of a creature endowed with life and motion.

This animal inhabits South America; the ſmaller ſpecies live in moiſt places, the larger in dry, and at a diſtance from the ſea; it burrows under ground, keeps its hole in the day, and rambles out at night. It feeds on potatoes,

melons, and roots, and does infinite damage to plantations. It drinks great quantities, grows very fat, and, when young, is reckoned delicious eating, but, when old, it has a diſagreeable muſky taſte. The armadillo breeds every month, and produces four at a time. It is an inoffenſive creature, unleſs it finds its way into a garden or plantation. Their motion is a kind of ſwift walk, but they can neither run, leap, nor climb trees, ſo that they have no other method of eſcaping from their purſuers, than by making towards their hole as expeditiouſly as they can; or, if this ſhould happen to be impracticable, to make a new hole before the arrival of the enemy: for this purpoſe they require but few moments, for in this buſineſs even the mole itſelf cannot be more expert, being furniſhed with claws extremely large, ſtrong, and crooked, and generally four upon each foot.

The armadillo is ſometimes caught by the tail as it is making its way into the earth, but, in theſe caſes, it uſually leaves the tail in the hand of the purſuer, being ſatisfied to preſerve its life with the loſs of it. The hunters, ſenſible of this, never pull the tail with all their force, but hold it while another digs the ground about it, by which means the animal is taken alive. If the armadillo be near a precipice, it frequently eſcapes by rolling itſelf up, and then tumbling down from rock to rock without the leaſt danger or inconvenience.

THE MANIS, OR PHATAGIN.

THE back, ſides, and upper part of the tail of this animal are covered with large ſtrong ſcales. It has a ſmall mouth, a long tongue, and no teeth; it has a ſlender noſe and a ſmooth head; the body, legs, and tail, are guarded by large ſharp-pointed ſtriated ſcales; the throat and belly are covered with hair; it has ſhort legs, and four claws upon each foot, one of which is very ſmall; the tail is a little taper, but blunt at the end. This animal is particularly diſtinguiſhed by the length of its tail, which is conſiderably above twice the length of its body, the body not exceeding fifteen inches in length, and the tail at leaſt three feet four inches. It is found in Africa, and the warm latitudes of the Eaſt, and approaches ſo near the genus of lizards, as to appear to be the link of the chain of beings which connects the proper quadrupeds with the reptile claſs. Theſe animals are not very numerous.

THE PANGOLIN, OR SHORT-TAILED MANIS.

OF all other animals, the pangolin, which is a native of the torrid climates of the ancient continent, is the beſt protected by nature from external injury. The length of the body is three feet, and the tail is about the ſame length. Like the lizard, it has a ſmall head, a long noſe,

noſe, a thick neck, a long body, ſhort legs, and a long tail. It has no teeth, but is armed with five toes on each foot. Its ears reſemble human ears: but it is principally diſtinguiſhed by its ſcaly covering, which defends the animal on all parts, except under the ſhoulders, the lower part of the head and neck, the breaſt, the belly, and the inner ſide of the legs, theſe parts being covered with a ſmooth ſoft ſkin. At all the interſtices between the ſhells of this extraordinary creature, ſtrong hair like briſtles are ſeen, which are yelloviſh towards the roots, and brown at the extremity. The ſcales are of different ſizes, and appear ſtuck upon the body ſomewhat like the leaves of an artichoke, the largeſt being always towards the tail. The ſubſtance of theſe ſcales reſembles that of horn; they are convex on the outſide, and concave in the inner.

When the pangolin has acquired its full growth, it is ſaid, theſe ſcales will turn a muſket ball; it therefore fears nothing from the efforts of all other creatures except man. When danger approaches, it rolls itſelf up like the hedgehog, preſenting no part to the aſſailant but the cutting edges of its ſcales. The length of the tail, which might be thought eaſily ſeparable, increaſes the ſecurity of the animal, by being lapped round the reſt of the body. The ſhells are ſo thick and pointed, that they repel every animal of prey, ſerving as a coat of armour that wounds while it reſiſts. The tiger, the leopard, the panther, and the hyæna, in vain attempt to force it; in vain do they tread upon it, and

roll it about with their paws, the pangolin is perfectly ſecure within, while its invaders ſuffer for their raſhneſs. Man alone ſeems furniſhed with arms to compel it to ſurrender: the negroes, who conſider the fleſh of this animal as a very great delicacy, beat it to death with very large clubs.

Though ſo formidable in its appearance, there cannot be a more inoffenſive animal than the pangolin. If it had the diſpoſition to injure larger animals, nature has rendered it incapable by denying it teeth; the bony matter which ſupplies the teeth of other animals, is probably exhauſted in this in ſupplying the ſcales that go to the covering of its body; but as it lives entirely upon inſects, nature has fitted it for that purpoſe in a very extraordinary manner: having a long noſe, it may be naturally ſuppoſed to have a long tongue; but to add to its length, it is doubled in the mouth, which enables the animal to extend it many inches beyond the tip of the noſe: this tongue is round, very red, and covered with an unctuous liquor, which gives it a ſhining hue. As ants are the inſects on which it chiefly feeds, when the pangolin approaches an ant-hill, it lies down near it, concealing its retreat as much as poſſible, and, ſtretching out its long tongue among the ants, keeps it motionleſs for ſome time; theſe inſects, allured by the ſlimy ſubſtance with which it is ſmeared, immediately flock to it in great numbers; and, when the pangolin ſuppoſes it has got a ſufficiency, it withdraws the tongue, and ſwallows legions at a time.

Theſe

Theſe animals chiefly inhabit the moſt obſcure parts of the foreſt, and dig themſelves a retreat in the clefts of rocks, where they bring forth their young, and are a ſolitary ſpecies, very rarely to be met with. They have no cry, nor make any other noiſe than a kind of ſnorting.

THE GREAT ANT-EATER.

THIS animal has a long ſlender noſe, ſmall black eyes, and ſhort round ears; the tongue is ſlender, thirty inches in length, and lies double in the mouth. The legs are ſlender, having four toes on the fore feet, and five on the hind: the two middle claws on the fore feet are very large, ſtrong, and hooked; the hair on the upper part of the body is black mixed with grey, and about ſix inches in length: a black line, bounded above with white, extends from the neck croſs the ſhoulders to the ſides: the tail is covered with coarſe black hair about a foot long. The length of this animal, from the noſe to the tail, is about three feet ten inches, and the tail two inches and a half.

This animal is a native of Braſil and Guiana. It lives chiefly in the woods, and conceals itſelf under the fallen leaves. It ſeldom ventures from its retreat, and, when it does, the induſtry of an hour ſupplies it with food for ſeveral days. It feeds entirely upon ants and inſects, and the mode by which it catches theſe is ſi-

milar to that practiſed by the pangolin. [*See the preceding article.*]

Helpleſs as this animal appears to be, and though without teeth, it is fierce and dangerous, and, when driven to an extremity, will fight with its claws with great obſtinacy; ſcarce any creature that gets within its fore feet can diſengage itſelf: even the panthers of America are often unequal in the combat; for if the ant-eater once obtains an opportunity of embracing them, it fixes its talons in their ſides, both fall together, and generally both periſh; for ſuch is the ſtupidity or vindictive deſperation of this animal, that it will not extricate itſelf even from a dead adverſary. The ant-eater ſleeps in the day, and preys by night: its fleſh has a diſagreeable ſtrong taſte, but it is eaten by the Indians.

THE LESSER ANT-EATER

HAS a long ſlender noſe, bending a little downward, a little mouth, and ſmall black eyes. Its ears are alſo ſmall and upright: it has four claws on each of the fore feet, and five on the ſe behind: the hair is of a pale yellow colour, and hard and ſhining: a black line croſſes the ſhoulders on each ſide of the neck, and meets at the lower end of the back. The length of the body of this animal is about nineteen inches, and the tail ten inches. It inhabits Braſil and Guiana, and its manners are much

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Lesser Ant Eater.

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much the ſame as the laſt. It climbs trees, and takes hold of the branches with its tail.

THE MORSE, OR WALRUS.

THIS animal, which is ſomewhat of the ſeal kind, has a round head, a ſmall mouth, and very thick lips, covered both above and below with pellucid briſtles as thick as a ſtraw. It has two ſmall fiery eyes, and two little orifices inſtead of ears: the neck is ſhort, and the body thick in the middle, tapering towards the tail. The ſkin is thick and wrinkled, having ſhort brownish hairs thinly diſperſed over it. Its legs, which are ſhort, have on each five toes, all connected together by webs, and having ſmall nails on each of them: the hind feet are very broad, and the hind legs are uſually extended on a line with the body; the tail is very ſhort. The length of this animal, from the noſe to the tail, is from twelve to eighteen feet, and it generally meaſures ten or twelve feet round in the thickeſt part of the body. Their teeth are generally from two to three feet long, and the ivory is held in greater eſteem than that of the elephant, being both whiter and harder. On the coaſt of the Icy Sea, where theſe animals are ſeldom moleſted, and conſequently have time to attain their full growth, the teeth have been ſometimes found of the weight of twenty pounds each.

Theſe animals inhabit the coaſt of Spitzbergen, Nova Zembla, Hudſon's Bay, and the

Gulph of St. Laurence; and the Icy Sea, as far as Cape Tſchuktſchi. In ſome places they appear in herds of hundreds at a time: they are very ſhy animals, and avoid thoſe places which are much frequented by mankind. They are extremely fierce, and, if wounded in the water, endeavour to ſink the boat of their adverſaries, either by riſing under it, or by ſtriking their large teeth into the ſides: they roar very loud, and follow the boat as long as they can keep it in view. They are often ſeen in great numbers ſleeping on an iſland of ice, and if they are diſturbed they plunge into the ſea with great impetuoſity. At theſe times it is dangerous to approach the ice, leſt they ſhould tumble into the boat, and overſet it.

Theſe animals never go upon land until the coaſt is clear of ice, and then they ſometimes go aſhore in amazing numbers. As ſoon as the firſt arrives upon dry land, it will never move till another comes and forces it forward, by beating it with its large teeth: this receives the ſame treatment from the next, and ſo in ſucceſſion till they are all landed. On the Magdalene iſles in the gulph of St. Laurence, the hunters watch the landing of theſe animals, and as ſoon as they find a ſufficient number for what they call a cut, they go on ſhore, each armed with a ſpear, ſharp on one ſide like a knife, with which they cut their throats. Particular care muſt be taken not to ſtand in the way of thoſe which attempt to return to the ſea, which they do with great agility by tumbling headlong; for their vaſt weight would

would cruſh any perſon to death. They are killed for their oil, one animal ſometimes affording half a tun.

The morſe produces one or two young at a time: it feeds upon ſea-herbs and fiſh; it will alſo eat ſhells, which it digs out of the ſand with its teeth. They are ſaid to aſcend rocks or pieces of ice by the aſſiſtance of their teeth, faſtening them to the cracks, and by that means drawing up their bodies. Except mankind, this animal appears to have no other enemy than the white bear, with which it often combats, and is generally victorious on account of its large teeth.

THE SEAL.

THE ſeal reſembles a quadruped in ſome reſpects, and a fiſh in others. The head is round, and the noſe broad, ſomewhat reſembling that of an otter. It has two canine teeth in each jaw, large whiſkers, oblong noſtrils, and large black ſparkling eyes; the tongue is forked at the end: and it has ſix cutting teeth in the upper-jaw, and four in the lower. It has no external ears, but holes anſwering the purpoſe of ears: the neck is of a moderate length and well proportioned, and the body is the thickeſt where the neck is joined to it. From thence the animal tapers down to the tail, becoming gradually ſmaller all the way like a fiſh. The body is covered with a thick briſtly ſhining hair, the colour of which is very various,

ous, being ſometimes duſky, ſometimes brinded, and ſometimes ſpotted with white or yellow. In moſt of the above particulars it reſembles the quadruped kind, but it greatly differs from all of them in the feet; for, though furniſhed with the ſame number of bones with other quadrupeds, yet they are ſtuck on the body in ſo remarkable a manner, and are ſo covered with a membrane, that they would more reſemble fins than feet, did not the ſharp ſtrong claws, with which they are pointed, ſhew their proper analogy. The fore feet, or rather hands, are covered in a thick hairy ſkin, which, like a fin, aſſiſts in ſwimming; theſe are diſtinguiſhed by five long piercing claws. The hind feet are extended on each ſide of its ſhort tail, covered alſo with a ſkin, and both almoſt joining together at the tail. The uſual length of this animal is about five or ſix feet, though ſome have been found that have exceeded eight feet. In the formation of the tongue the ſeal differs from every other quadruped, it is forked or ſlit at the end like that of a ſerpent.

Theſe animals inhabit almoſt every quarter of the globe, but they are found in great multitudes towards the north and the ſouth.

The water is the moſt uſual habitation of the ſeal, and its food is whatever fiſh it can catch. But though it can remain under water for ſeveral minutes, it cannot, like the fiſhy tribe, continue there for any conſiderable time; and a ſeal may be drowned like any other terreſtrial animal. Being awkwardly formed for going upon

upon land, it ſeldom ventures at any great diſtance from the ſhore, but uſually baſks upon the rocks, and when diſturbed plunges immediately to the bottom of the water. Its hind feet being turned backwards, they are entirely uſeleſs upon land, and when the creature moves it drags itſelf forward like a reptile, apparently with great pain and labour. For this purpoſe it uſes its fore feet, which, though exceedingly ſhort, enable it to move with ſo much ſwiftneſs, that, for a ſhort ſpace, a man cannot eaſily overtake it; and it always runs toward the ſea, from which it never is far diſtant.

Theſe animals produce two or three young at a time, which, for ſome ſhort ſpace, are white and woolly: they bring forth in autumn, and ſuckle their young in caverns, or in rocks, till they are ſix or ſeven weeks old, at which time they take the ſea.

The chief of their food being fiſh, they are very expert at catching them. Where the herrings are found in ſhoals the ſeals are often ſeen, and they devour them by thouſands: nor are they deſtitute of courage even upon land, except on thoſe ſhores where there are numbers of inhabitants, and from whence they have been frequently purſued. Along the deſert coaſts, where they ſeldom meet with any interruption from man, they are bold and intrepid, and make a very deſperate reſiſtance; but a ſlight blow on the noſe immediately kills them, otherwiſe they will endure many wounds. Where they are not frequently diſturbed, they uſually

uſually ſleep very ſoundly; and it is then that the hunters ſurprize them. The Europeans, who go into the Greenland ſeas upon the whale-fiſhery, ſurround them with nets, and deſtroy them; but theſe animals are more wary in our climate, and very ſeldom ſuffer the hunter to approach them. They frequently appear upon the rocks of the Corniſh coaſt, baſking in the ſun, or upon the inacceſſible cliffs left dry by the ebbing of the tide. There they continue, and are extremely vigilant, perpetually raiſing their heads to look about them, to ſee if any enemy approaches: the only method therefore that can be taken is to ſhoot them; but if they happen to eſcape, they haſten towards the ſea, throwing up ſtones and dirt behind them as they ſcramble along, at the ſame time expreſſing their fears by the moſt piteous moanings. Should they happen to be overtaken, they make a moſt vigorous defence with their feet and teeth.

The ſeal is good food, and is often eaten by voyagers: but it is killed chiefly for the ſake of its ſkin, and for the oil which is made of its fat, a young ſeal yielding about eight gallons: their ſkins are uſed for waiſtcoats, covers for trunks, ſhot pouches, and many other conveniencies.

The ſeal is common on moſt of the rocky ſhores of Great Britain and Ireland, eſpecially on the northern coaſts. In Wales, it frequents the coaſts of Caernarvonſhire and Angleſea.

THE

THE HOODED SEAL

HAS a ſtrong folded ſkin on the forehead, which it can, at pleaſure, throw over its eyes and noſe, to defend them from ſtones and ſand in ſtormy weather. The hair of this animal is white, with an under-coat of thick black wool, which makes it appear of a fine grey. It inhabits the ſouth of Greenland and Newfoundland; and in the laſt mentioned place is called the hooded ſeal. The hunters ſay they cannot kill this animal till they remove the integument on the head.

THE URSINE SEAL, OR THE SEA-BEAR.

THERE are three marine animals, called the ſea-lion, the ſea-bear, and the manati, which keep a particular ſituation, and ſeem divided between the north-eaſt of Aſia, and the north-weſt of America, in the narrow ſeas between theſe vaſt continents.

The urſine ſeal, or ſea-bear, leads a moſt indolent life during the three months in ſummer, confining itſelf for whole weeks to one particular ſpot, and ſleeping a great part of the time: they eat nothing, and are totally inactive, except the employment the females have in ſuckling their young. Though aſſembled by thouſands on the ſhores, each family is ſeparated from the reſt.

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The female uſually brings but one at a time, and never more than two.

Theſe animals are very ſwift in the water, and ſwim at the rate of ſeven miles an hour. When wounded, they will ſeize the boat in which their enemies are, and carry it along with vaſt impetuoſity; and ſometimes they even ſink it.

The male is conſiderably larger than the female. The bodies of each are of a conic form, being very thick before, and tapering to the tail. The length of a large one is about eight feet, and the greateſt circumference about five: the weight nearly eight hundred pounds. The noſe projects ſomewhat like that of a pug-dog, the noſtrils are oval, the lips thick, and the whiſkers long and white. When the mouth is cloſed, the teeth lock into each other: in the upper jaw are four cutting teeth, each having two prongs, and on each ſide is a ſmall ſharp canine tooth bending inwards, with another near it which is larger: the grinders, which reſemble canine teeth, are ſix in number in each jaw: there are four cutting, and two canine teeth in the lower jaw, but only four grinders in each jaw; making in the whole thirty-ſix teeth. The tongue is ſlit, and the eyes large and prominent, which it can cover at pleaſure with a fleſhy membrane: the ears are ſmall and ſharp pointed, hairy without, and ſmooth within. The length of the fore legs is about two feet, on which are toes that are covered with a naked ſkin, ſo

that externally they ſeem a ſhapeleſs maſs, and have only the rudiments of nails to five latent toes: the hind legs, which are about twenty-two inches long, are fixed to the body quite behind, in ſome degree like thoſe of ſeals; but the animal is capable of bringing them forward, and even uſes them to ſcratch its head. Theſe feet are about a foot broad, and are divided into five toes, each connected by a large web. The length of the tail is not above two inches.

The hair of theſe animals is long and rough, beneath which is a ſoft down of a bay colour: their general colour is black, but the hairs of the old ones are tipped with grey: the females are aſh-coloured. The fleſh of the old males is very nauſeous, but that of the females reſembles lamb, and the young ones, when roaſted, are as delicate eating as ſucking pigs.

THE SEA LION.

THE male has an arched projecting ſnout, hanging five or ſix inches below the under jaw; the eyes are large, and the whiſkers long: the hair on the body is ſhort, and of a dun colour; that on the neck is a little longer: the feet, which are ſhort and duſky, have five toes upon each, furniſhed with nails; the hind feet have the appearance of large fins. The length of a full grown male is about twenty feet, and the greateſt circumference about fifteen. The female has a blunt noſe, knotty at the top, and

wide noſtrils: the fore legs are twenty inches long, and the toes are furniſhed with flat oblong nails: inſtead of legs, the hind parts are divided into two large forked fins, and it has no tail. The body of this animal is covered with ſhort ruſt-coloured hair; the length, from the noſe to the fins, is about four yards, and the greateſt circumference about two yards and an half.

Theſe animals inhabit the ſeas between Kamtſchatka and America.

When in motion, they have the appearance of a large ſkin full of oil, from the tremulous movement of the blubber, which is ſometimes a foot thick, on which account the Spaniards call them wolves of oil. One of theſe animals has been known to yield a butt of oil, and they are ſo full of blood, that two hogſheads have been filled with what has come from one animal. The fleſh, though not excellent, is eatable.

Though the old animals have a tremendous appearance, they are exceſſively timid, except at the breeding ſeaſon. The Kamtſchatkans either ſhoot them with poiſoned arrows, or kill them in their ſleep with lances. They make ſhoes of the ſkin, and ſometimes cut it into cords. The blubber and the fleſh they eſteem very palatable; and they make a jelly from the feet, which they think delicious.

Like the former, theſe animals aſſociate in families, but in ſmaller numbers. In the Kamtſchatkan ſeas, they generally make choice of ſome inſulated rocks for their ſtation, where their

their roar is to be heard at the diſtance of two miles; the cry of the young reſembling the bleating of ſheep. Theſe animals are of a heavy inactive diſpoſition, fond of wallowing in miry places, and, like ſwine, lying one upon another, making a noiſe ſomewhat like the grunting of thoſe animals, and ſometimes ſnorting like horſes in full vigour. They feed on ſeals, fiſh, and ſea otters.

THE MANATI.

THIS animal, in nature, very nearly approaches the whale. Like the whale it brings forth in the water, and like the whale ſuckles its young in that element. Like the whale it has no voice, and, like that animal, has an horizontal broad tail, without even the rudiments of hind feet. Indeed, what are called feet are little more than fins, ſerving for ſwimming; they are never uſed to aſſiſt the animal in walking, or landing, for it never goes aſhore, nor ever attempts to climb the rocks, like the ſeal and walrus.

In the head and body the manati is ſhaped ſomewhat like the ſeal; the fore legs or hands are alſo very much in the ſame manner, ſhort and webbed, but having only four claws; theſe too are proportionably ſhorter than in the other animal, and placed nearer the head; conſequently they are not adapted to aſſiſt its motions upon land: but in the hinder parts it differs greatly from all the animals of the ſeal

kind; the tail being perfectly that of a fiſh, and extended like a fan, without even the veſtiges of thoſe bones which form the legs and feet of others of the ſeal kind.

Theſe animals are of an enormous ſize: Dampier aſſerts, that ſome of them are twenty-eight feet long, and weigh eight thouſand pounds. The ſkin, which is of a blackiſh colour, is very tough and hard, and full of inequalities, like the bark of oak, on which are ſcattered a few hairs, like briſtles, of about an inch long. In proportion to the animal, the eyes are extremely ſmall, not exceeding thoſe of a ſheep in ſize. It is deſtitute of external ears, having only two orifices, which are ſo ſmall as hardly to admit a quill; the tongue is pointed and very ſmall; it has no teeth, inſtead of which it has two ſolid white bones, extending the whole length of both jaws, which ſerve inſtead of grinders. The lips are double, and near the junction of the two jaws; the mouth is full of white tubular briſtles anſwering the ſame purpoſe as the laminæ in whales, to hinder the food from running out with the water; the lips are alſo full of briſtles, ſerving, inſtead of teeth, to cut the ſtrong roots of the ſea plants, which, floating aſhore, point out the vicinity of theſe animals.

The female manati produces but one at a time, which ſhe holds with her paws to her boſom, where it ſticks cloſe, and accompanies her wherever ſhe goes. The manati can hardly be called amphibious, as it never entirely leaves the water, only raiſing its head out of the ſtream

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to reach the graſs on the ſides of the rivers. It feeds entirely upon vegetables, and therefore never chooſes to go far in the open ſea, but frequents the edges of the ſhores, and chiefly the large rivers of South America, where it is often found above two thouſand miles from the ocean. At the bottom of ſome of the Indian bays, theſe animals are ſeen harmleſsly grazing among turtles and other cruſtaceous fiſhes, neither offering nor fearing any outrage. In calm weather theſe animals, when unmoleſted, keep together in large companies near the mouths of rivers. In the time of flood, they come ſo cloſe to land, that a perſon may ſtroke them with his hand.

They live in ſmall families, conſiſting of a male, a female, a half-grown young one, and a very ſmall one; each family not being far diſtant from another. The females oblige their young to ſwim before them, while the other old ones ſurround and guard them on every ſide. The affection between the male and female is very ſtrong, for, if the latter ſhould happen to be attacked, the former will defend her to the utmoſt, and if ſhe is killed he attends her body to the ſhore, and, for ſeveral days after, continues to ſwim about the place at which ſhe was landed. Theſe animals bring forth in autumn, and are ſuppoſed to go with young about a year.

The manati has no voice nor cry, and makes no kind of noiſe, except what proceeds from breathing. The internal parts of this animal reſemble thoſe of an horſe, its inteſtines being

longer than thoſe of any other creature, the horſe only excepted.

Theſe animals are vaſtly voracious, and, when their hunger is appeaſed, they fall aſleep on their backs. During their repaſt, they are ſo intent upon their food, that any perſon may go among them, and make choice of which he pleaſes. Peter Martyr informs us, that one of theſe animals lived in a lake of Hiſpaniola for twenty-five years, which was ſo tame as to come to the edge of the ſhore on being called, and would even perform the part of a ferry, carrying ſeveral people on its back at once to the oppoſite ſhore. The back and ſides of theſe animals are uſually above water, and as their ſkin is filled with a ſpecies of louſe peculiar to them, great numbers of gulls are continually perching on their backs, and picking out the inſects.

They remain the whole year in the American and Kamtſchatkan ſeas, but they are ſo very lean in winter that you may even number their ribs. They are uſually taken by harpoons; and, after they are ſtruck, it requires the united ſtrength of thirty men to draw them on ſhore. Sometimes, when they are transfixed, they will faſten their paws upon the rocks, and ſtick ſo cloſe as to leave the ſkin behind them before they can be forced off. When one of theſe animals is ſtruck, its companions ſwim to its aſſiſtance, ſome of which endeavour to overturn the boat by getting under it, others attempt to break the rope, by preſſing it down, and others ſtrike at the harpoon with their tails,

with

with a view of forcing it out, in which they often ſucceed.

When expoſed to the ſun, the fat or blubber of the manati, which lies under the ſkin, has a moſt delicious ſmell, and taſte, and is far ſuperior to the fat of any other ſea animal; it has alſo this peculiar property, that the heat of the ſun will not make it grow rancid, or injure it in the leaſt. It taſtes like the oil of ſweet almonds, and in all caſes where butter is uſed it is a moſt excellent ſubſtitute. Any quantity of it may be taken without the leaſt injury, as it has no other effect than that of keeping the body open. The fat of the tail is of a harder conſiſtence, and, when boiled, is more delicate than the former. The fleſh is redder and coarſer than beef, and may be kept a great while in the hotteſt weather without putrefying. It requires a long time in boiling, and afterwards has ſomewhat the taſte of beef. The fat of the young ones has the flavour of pork, and the lean reſembles veal. Some are of opinion the fleſh of this animal reſembles that of a turtle, which is indeed extremely probable, ſince they are found in the ſame element, and live upon the ſame food.

THE SEA APE.

THE head of this animal reſembles that of a dog, its ears are ſhort and erect, its eyes large, and it has a kind of beard on each lip. The length of its body is about five feet, and its form thick and round, but largeſt near the head, and tapering to the tail, which has two prongs. The body

body is covered with thick hair, which is grey on the back, and red on the belly; but Mr. Stellar, who ſaw it on the coaſt of America, ſays he could diſcover neither feet nor paws. It was extremely frolickſome, and diverted itſelf with variety of monkey tricks; ſometimes ſwimming on the one ſide of the ſhip, and ſometimes on the other, obſerving it with great amazement. It frequently came ſo near the veſſel that it might be touched with a pole; but if any perſon moved it would immediately retire. Sometimes it would raiſe itſelf ſo as to have a third part of its body out of the water, and continue erect for a conſiderable time; then, ſuddenly darting under the ſhip, appear in an inſtant on the other ſide, in the ſame attitude; and this it would repeat for thirty or forty times together. Sometimes it would bring up a ſea plant, which it would wantonly toſs about and catch again in its mouth, playing a number of fantaſtic tricks with it.

THE BAT.

SOME naturaliſts have thought animals of the bat kind ſo much partaking of the nature of the bird and the beaſt, that they have been at a loſs in which rank to place them; but theſe doubts exiſt no longer; they are now univerſally allowed to take their place among quadrupeds; to which they are evidently entitled by their hair, their teeth, and their bringing forth their young alive, as well as by the reſt of their habitudes and conformations.

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The ſpecies of bat which is moſt common in England, is about the ſize of a mouſe, or nearly two inches and a half in length. The members which are uſually called wings, are, in reality, only the four interior toes of the fore feet produced to a great length, and connected by a thin membrane, which alſo extends to the hind legs and the tail. The firſt toe is quite looſe, ſerving as a heel when the animal walks, or as an hook when it chooſes to adhere to any thing. The hind feet are diſengaged from the ſurrounding ſkin, and divided into five toes, furniſhed with pretty ſtrong claws, ſomewhat reſembling thoſe of a mouſe. The ſkin or membrane by which it flies is of a duſky colour; the body is covered with a ſhort mouſe-coloured fur, tinged with red. The eyes are very ſmall, the ears ſhort, and the extent of the wings nine inches.

This animal makes its firſt appearance in England early in ſummer, and begins its flight in the duſk of the evening. It uſually haunts the ſides of woods, glades, and ſhady walks; and frequently ſkims along the ſurface of water in purſuit of gnats and inſects. Theſe, however, are not its only food, for it will not refuſe meat of any kind, wherever it can find it. The flight of the bat is a laborious irregular movement, and, when interrupted in its courſe, it finds it difficult to prepare for ſecond elevation; ſo that if it happens to ſtrike againſt any object, and falls to the ground, it ſeldom can eſcape. It never appears but in the moſt pleaſant evenings, when its prey are generally abroad,

abroad, and always flies in purſuit with its mouth open. At other times it continues in its retreat, which is generally the chink of a building in a ruinous ſtate, or the hollow of a tree. Even in ſummer this little animal ſleeps the greateſt part of its time, never venturing out by day-light, nor in rainy evenings. It is in queſt of prey but a ſmall part of the night, as it preſently ſatisfies the demands of hunger, and returns again to its hole.

At the approach of winter the bat retires into caves, buildings in a ruinous ſituation, the roofs of houſes, or hollow trees, where it remains during the whole winter, in a ſtate of torpid inactivity, ſuſpended by the hind feet, and cloſely wrapped up in the membranes of the fore feet, regardleſs of the external damps that ſurround it. This is the only animal that will venture to remain in frightful ſubterranean abodes, where it continues in a ſtate of torpidity, unaffected by every change of weather.

This creature brings forth in ſummer, and generally produces from two to five at a time. We are aſſured, by Linnæus, that the female prepares no neſt for her young. She is ſatisfied with the firſt hole ſhe meets, where, ſticking herſelf up by her hooks againſt the ſides of her apartment, ſhe ſuffers her young to hang at the nipple, and continue thus for the firſt or ſecond day. But when ſhe becomes very hungry, and finds it abſolutely neceſſary to go abroad, ſhe ſticks her little ones againſt the wall, to which they firmly adhere, and patiently wait till her return.

This

This bat, ſo common in Great Britain, may be conſidered as an harmleſs inoffenſive animal, though it ſometimes ſteals into a larder, and, like a mouſe, commits its petty thefts upon the fatteſt parts of bacon. But this does not often happen, it being principally employed in purſuing inſects that are much more noxious to us than this animal can poſſibly be.

THE GREAT BAT OF MADAGASCAR.

THIS bat is the largeſt that we have any certain account of. It is about a foot long from the tip of the noſe to the inſertion of the tail; and its extent from the tip of one wing to the tip of the other is about four feet. It has large canine teeth, four cutting teeth above, and four below; the noſe is black and ſharp, and the ears large and naked; the talons are very crooked, ſtrong, and compreſſed ſideways. It has no tail. It reſembles the common bat in the form of its wings, in its manner of flying, and in its internal conformation. This formidable creature is found in Guinea, Madagaſcar, and all the iſlands from thence to the remoteſt in the Indian ocean. When they repoſe, they ſtick themſelves on the tops of the talleſt trees, and hang with their heads downwards; but, when they are in motion, they ſometimes ſettle upon animals, and even upon man himſelf. They devour indiſcriminately fruits, fleſh, and inſects, and are ſo extremely fond of the juice of the palm tree, that they will intoxicate themſelves

ſelves with it till they drop on the ground. It is very probable that the ancients have taken their idea of Harpies from theſe creatures, as they both ſeem to concur in many parts of the deſcription, being equally cruel, deformed, greedy, and uncleanly. Their cry is dreadful, their ſmell rank; they reſiſt fiercely when attacked, and their bite is terrible.

It is dangerous to repoſe in the open air, or to leave open any entrance to theſe noxious animals. The bat is ſo dexterous a bleeder as to inſinuate its ſharp-pointed tongue into a vein unperceived, and to ſuck the blood till it is ſatiated, at the ſame time fanning with its wings, and agitating the air, which in that hot climate lulls the ſufferer into a ſtill ſounder ſleep.

THE VAMPYRE.

THIS animal, though leſs formidable, is more miſchievous than the former. It is furniſhed with a horn, and its ears are extremely broad, long, and upright. The hair on the body is aſh-coloured and pretty long; the membrane extends from one hind leg to the other; it has no tail, but from the rump extend three tendons, terminating at the edge of the membrane. It inhabits South America, lives in the palm trees, and grows very fat.

This is the bat which Mr. Buffon ſuppoſes to be the principal blood-ſucker.

FINI